

Fight for defence contract

British and American companies are fighting for a £100m contract to supply the RAF with a radar system. The order could safeguard thousands of jobs in the British aerospace industry. The competition could be as fierce as last year's battle to supply the Royal Navy with a new type of torpedo. *Back page*

Crown Agents property sale

The Crown Agents is close to selling its Australian property portfolio to an insurance group, Australian National Provident. The sale is expected to raise between AS \$30m and AS \$32m (£18m and £18m). *Page 13*

Chirac missed bomb train

M Jacques Chirac Mayor of Paris, had planned to travel in the carriage of the Paris-Toulouse express which was destroyed by a bomb. *Page 6*

English rebels return home

Most of the English cricket rebels who toured South Africa returned to London fielding defensively all questions. Rumours persist that an Australian team will be recruited as the next tourists. *Page 17*

New D-notices are issued

New D-notices, the voluntary system of self-censorship on security operated by the press and media, have been issued. Their number has been reduced from 12 to 8 and for the first time terrorism is mentioned.

Whitelaw hits back

Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, rebuffed the strongest terms, the leader of the Greater London Council and its police committee chairman for their outspoken attacks on the capital's police force. *Page 5*

Action sought on glue-sniffing

Glue manufacturers would be forced to add a foaming chemical to their products to deter glue-sniffers under an amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill tabled in the Commons. *Page 3*

County votes to keep hunting

An attempt to ban hunting on more than 100 county council farms in Leicestershire was lost by 46 votes to 42. The 44 Conservatives on the council all voted to preserve hunting, joined by one of the five Liberals and the sole Social Democrat.

Wimbledon cash

Prize money at Wimbledon this year has been increased by 70 per cent, to £507,420. The men's champion will receive £41,567 instead of £21,600. *Page 19*

Double killing

An elderly widow and her husband were shot at their home in Wigan. The police found Mr Seamus Lyons, aged 38, dead near his mother, Mrs Vera Lyons, who died later in hospital. The police believe they were murdered.

Murder strike

Spanish doctors, angered by the murder of a surgeon in San Sebastian, have called for a 15-minute strike tomorrow. The ETA has claimed responsibility for the killing. *Page 7*

Leader page 11

Letters: On the political centre, from Lord Lansdowne, and others; politics and police, from Mrs M B Simey, and others; Falklands from Mr R S Rowlands, and others. *Page 10*

Why the English cricket rebels' tour will probably lead to more visitors' innings in South Africa; who has to pay for the black blues players?; towards a new national service for the young.

Obituary, page 12

Dr F G Mann, Mr Harold Keble

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Steel names terms to serve under Jenkins

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr David Steel has told Mr Roy Jenkins that if he is to serve under him in Liberal-Social Democratic government he would expect to be deputy Prime Minister, as well as either the Home Secretary, Foreign Secretary or Chancellor of the Exchequer.

On the assumption that Mr Jenkins becomes leader of the SDP, he and Mr Steel will present themselves to the electorate as joint leaders of the Alliance, or as a "dumvirate", at the next general election, with the understanding that Mr Jenkins would be Prime Minister in the event of an Alliance victory.

But in return for that agreement, it is authoritative understood, Mr Steel, as deputy Prime Minister in an Alliance government, would have far greater powers than are normally associated with that post, including a decisive voice in the appointment of the Cabinet. Mr Steel is anxious to develop the concept of a collective leadership between the two parties in government.

Mr Steel and Mr Jenkins discussed the division of power in the event of an Alliance government last Friday. The Liberal leader is anxious to dispel any impression that he would be happy to serve under Mr Jenkins in a post such as Leader of the Commons.

Mr Steel's idea would inevitably involve a reduction in the present power of the Prime Minister. He wrote in the *News of the World* on Sunday: "One thing can be stated immediately is that in an alliance government we have no intention of permitting such autocratic power in the hands of the Prime Minister as we have seen in recent governments."

In line with the "dumvirate" concept, Mr Steel and Mr Jenkins would play an equal role in the general election campaign. It is accepted by both that with Mr Jenkins defeating a narrow majority at Glasgow, Hillhead, Mr Steel may have to carry a heavy burden in national campaigning.

VAT on gold coins surprises market

By Michael Prest

Coin dealers and investors were surprised when the Customs and Excise announced that buyers of gold coins will have to pay 15 per cent value added tax from this morning. Legal tender investment coins have not been liable to United Kingdom VAT until now.

The new tax, which is feared will dampen an expanding market among small investors for gold coins, is a response by Customs and Excise to recent alleged frauds. Gold coins are said to have been melted down and sold as bullion, which had carried 15 per cent VAT, at a profit.

A customs spokesman said: "It has been introduced at this stage because of actual and potential fraud." Under the new law covering harmonization of VAT, a tax would have been imposed on coins in the United Kingdom by the beginning of next year, the spokesman said.

Dealing in coins was suspended yesterday while the market digested the news. It was stressed, however, that private holders of coins bought before the new tax should not assume that they can sell their holdings automatically for 15 per cent more. Kruggerand sales have picked up strongly in recent weeks as the gold price has fallen and investors saw an opportunity to buy at the bottom of the market.

Apart from Kruggerands, the other most widely traded and affected coins are the Sovereigns, the Canadian Maple Leaf, the Soviet Cherub, and the Mexican Pesos. Antique coins are more than 100 years old and may be treated specially.

The Government blocked the VAT loophole on the importation of gold coins as customs investigators continued questioning 19 people after two operations involving up to £100m in gold and £4m in VAT evasion (Stewart Tait writes).

Impenetrable silence on Falklands crisis

By Our Foreign Staff

Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, has postponed a visit he was due to make to Mexico, starting today, because of the crisis with Argentina over the British territory of South Georgia.

The crisis began with the illegal landing on South Georgia, a dependency of the Falkland Islands, of a group of Argentine scrap metal chancers two weeks ago.

Mr Luce is the British minister responsible for the Falkland Islands. He told the Commons on Tuesday that it was the duty of the Government to support and defend the islands. But he emphasized the utmost need to seek a diplomatic solution to the dispute with Argentina, which claims the Falklands and South Georgia as its own.

Mr James Callaghan, the former Prime Minister, told the Commons that on a previous occasion, Britain had assembled ships stationed in the Caribbean, Gibraltar and the Mediterranean, and they had anchored about 400 miles off the Falklands in support of the Royal Navy patrol vessel Endeavour.

When this became known, a diplomatic solution had followed. Mr Callaghan referred to Argentina having tried to escalate the Falklands tension before when faced with internal troubles.

The Foreign Office last night declined to comment on his statement.

One view in Whitehall is that the Argentine authorities may be seeking to capitalize on the illegal landing by the scrap metal chancers, but were not implicated in causing it.

Argentine naval strength in the South Atlantic includes its only aircraft carrier, the 25 de Mayo, two destroyers and two missile-carrying corvettes. There are also reports that an Argentine submarine has been sent into the area.

The report involving the Royal Navy's nuclear powered 4,500-ton Superb, which is armed with Tigerfish heavyweight torpedoes, is beginning to look more and more like a controlled leak which need not even be true to have the desired effect.

The Royal Navy has refused to confirm that Superb was on its way to South Georgia.

Plans to reinforce the Falkland Islands, or not as the case may be, remained among Whitehall's more cherished secrets last night after another day of impenetrable silence at the Ministry of Defence.

In Buenos Aires, the high commands of the army, navy, and air force have met to analyze Lord Carrington's speech on the Falklands.

Diplomatic sources in the Argentine capital last night suggested that Washington was acting as a mediator.

Carrington stands firm over PLO

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, March 31

The first day of the controversial visit to Israel by Lord Carrington, the British Foreign Secretary, highlighted the deep differences in the European and Israeli approach to the Middle East and Israel's flat rejection of outside criticism of its recent crackdown in the occupied West Bank.

After several hours of talks, British officials made clear tonight that Israeli arguments had done nothing to alter Britain's Middle East policy. This was repeated publicly at a dinner in Jerusalem when Lord Carrington called for the association of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in peace negotiations in exchange for its recognition of Israel's right to exist in peace and security.

Earlier, Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, had again categorically stated Israel's refusal to consider such an approach. During a 60-minute meeting with Lord Carrington, Mr Begin made a pointed reference to Northern Ireland, stating that the British would not tolerate terrorism.

During the day, the recent violence on the West Bank cast its shadow over all the meetings held between Lord Carrington and senior Israeli ministers. Tonight, the British Foreign Secretary said bluntly in a speech not likely to win him many new friends in Israel: "The urgent need for a comprehensive solution has been graphically illustrated by the deeply disturbing events on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, about which we and many other governments have expressed our concern and dismay."

In private talks, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Foreign Minister, expressed "dismay and disappointment" at the strong condemnation of Israel's actions in the West Bank issued yesterday in Brussels. Mr Begin described himself as "pained" by the EEC statement.

Only minutes before Lord Carrington began his first meeting with Mr Shamir, he was alerted by a senior aide of a sharp attack just issued by the Israeli Foreign Ministry in response to the European condemnation of Israel's moves against the Palestinians.

The Israeli communiqué stated forcibly: "Israel expresses its dismay regarding the declaration of the European council which ignores the reality in Judea and Samaria, and which disregards completely the incidents to violence initiated by the PLO that led to the recent events."

This incitement aims at preventing any progress towards a peaceful settlement in the area. Israel sees the declaration as distorting the true facts, and therefore totally rejects it."

At Tel Aviv, a West Bank village was injured in a car bomb blast today in the first attempted political murder since the Jordanian Government gave warning on March 9 that Palestinian Arabs cooperating with Israeli-supervised village leagues will be prosecuted for treason, a capital offence (Moshe Brilliant writes).

Living standards slip as company profits rise

By Frances Williams

Living standards in Britain slipped by 2 per cent last year — the first fall since 1977 — as unemployment continued to climb and pay rises failed to keep up with higher taxes and inflation.

But company profits rose by 10 per cent between 1980 and 1981. Though the main boost came from companies involved with North Sea oil and gas, profits of other companies recovered sharply in the second half of 1981, after slumping in the first half.

This picture for 1981, revealed yesterday by figures from the Central Statistical Office, presents a significant contrast with previous years. Between 1977 and 1980, living standards — measured by the purchasing power of people's incomes after deducting income tax and National Insurance contributions — rose by 17 per cent. Over the same period national output increased by only 2½ per cent. One result was to put a severe squeeze on company profits.

The 1981 drop in living standards was concentrated in the second quarter of 1981, immediately after the Budget. Since then they have remained virtually unchanged. But both the Treasury and the Bank of England have given a warning of some further fall this year.

Higher oil and gas production and the 25 per cent rise in oil prices in the first half of 1981 produced a 50 per cent increase in profits for North Sea companies over the year to the fourth quarter of 1981.

But, even outside the North Sea sector, profits were up 25 per cent between the first and second halves of the year. They nevertheless remain well below their pre-recession levels.

Chart, page 13

British troops likely to quit Belize early

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, March 31

Britain is expected to withdraw its troops from the Central American state of Belize — which became independent in September — by the end of this year, according to diplomatic sources. The troops will be replaced by a British military advisory and training team similar, but smaller, to the one which has been in Zimbabwe since that country's independence two years ago.

The withdrawal of the force, comprising about 1,000 combat troops supported by Puma helicopters and a squadron of Harrier jump jets, is to take place much earlier than originally anticipated.

When Belize became independent it was agreed that British troops would remain for as long as was necessary to help to defend the fledgling state from Guatemala, which has long-standing territorial claims against Belize. Although no time limit was fixed, it was thought the troops would remain for several more years, or at least until Guatemala had agreed to recognize Belize's independence, however, talks are now taking place with the government of Mr George Price to advance their departure date.

Britain is seeking an early withdrawal because of the cost and because the Government, concerned that it could find itself being sucked into the political turbulence spreading across Central America, does not wish to maintain a defence commitment to a state which has become fully independent.

Furthermore, it is felt that the threat posed by Guatemala is more rhetorical than real. Western sources in Washington believe Guatemala is far too preoccupied with its own problems after last week's coup to plan an invasion of Belize.

If Guatemala was tempted to reactivate its territorial claims, it would draw strong opposition from most other countries in Latin America as well as the United States.

A Foreign Office spokesman said troops would remain until it was appropriate that they should withdraw. No date had been set for such a withdrawal.

Duchess's hospital stay

The Duchess of Kent was admitted to the King Edward VIII Hospital for Officers, London, yesterday after complaining of abdominal pain. She will undergo tests and is expected to remain there for a few days, a York House spokesman said.

A statement said the pain was connected with a gall bladder disorder suffered by the Duchess four years ago. Her condition was last night said to be "satisfactory".

The Prince and Princess of Wales will make their first joint visit to the Scilly Isles from April 20 to 23 to meet people connected with the Duchy of Cornwall interests and discuss its policy.

Rail grant inquiry by City man

By Michael Bailey, Transport Correspondent

A further blow to British Rail after its £100m loss on the train drivers' dispute came yesterday when Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, announced a £15m cut in government grant this year.

At £804m the grant is £50m up on last year in cash terms but £15m down after inflation. In making the cut Mr Howell emphasized in the Commons not only that BR itself would have to bear the cost of the drivers' strike, but also that the Government continued to take a jaundiced view of BR's failure to cut costs generally.

Mr James Butler, a City accountant, of Peat Marwick and Mitchell, is to investigate why public support for the railway is so high, and if it can be reduced. For the first time the Government is to earmark a part of the grant specifically for capital works on maintenance and renewal to ensure that the grant does not ebb away on operating costs, including this year's pay award.

British Rail, which had asked for £885m, last night described the new level as "tough but manageable". It hoped to stay within it without extra cuts in routes and services, a board spokesman said, by good house-keeping and further disposal of hotel and property assets.

Russians recall the salad days

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, March 31

A hundred years ago today Russia's most famous children's writer, who has shaped the childhood world of three generations was born, and the Soviet Union is honouring the memory of Kornei Chukovsky with films, book exhibitions and special television programmes.

But as the literary world pays homage to the Russians' Hans Andersen, whose works have been translated into more than 80 languages and sold over 176 million copies in the Soviet Union alone, controversy is building up over official plans to evict his family from the peaceful cream-coloured cottage in the writer's colony just outside Moscow where he spent much of his life.

Chukovsky, a close friend of his neighbour Boris Pasternak, lived in Peredelkino until his death, at the age of 88, in a house provided by the Soviet Union of Writers. In a test case the union, which rents dachas to its members for the duration of their life, is trying to get back his house, inhabited by his daughter, and the dacha used by the Pasternak family.

The union, legally on firm ground, says living writers should be entitled to the sought-after privilege of a dacha among the woods of Peredelkino. There is fierce argument over the eviction plan, as at least 40 other families of deceased writers might be affected.

Chukovsky's house, badly in need of repair, has been turned into a private museum by his family. The writers union is proposing, as a compromise, a central literary museum in the village collecting memorabilia from famous writers who have lived there, with plaques on the walls of dachas handed over to new inhabitants.

The community's tranquility will soon be shattered by Moscow city council's plans to turn Peredelkino into a dormitory commuter town.

Chukovsky was a prolific writer and translator who began publishing before the revolution. Among his best known children's works are *Dr Aibolit*, a Russian equivalent of Dr Doolittle, and poems warning children not to go to Africa because of the monsters there, an idea that may underlie basic Russian attitudes to Africa.

He nearly lost his life when a poem about a cockroach with a big black moustache which children should kill was reprinted in 1937, but he managed to convince the authorities he had not intended any analogy with Stalin.

He founded and paid for a children's library in Peredelkino which keeps first editions of his works and letters from other literary figures and is still used by local schools.

ILSO

Diary

At the Royal Festival Hall
Thursday 8 April 8.00
Sunday 11 April 3.15

DUKAS
The Sorcerer's Apprentice
RAVEL
Piano Concerto in G
FAURE
Requiem
Arraro Benedetti Michelangeli, Piano
Marie McLaughlin, Soprano
Gwynne Howell, Bass
London Symphony Chorus
Sergio Celibidache, Conductor
£17.50 £15.00 £12.00 £10.00
£8.00 £5.00

*Royal Insurance Great Orchestra of the World Concert Series

Tuesday 13 April 8.00
Recital
BEETHOVEN
Piano Sonata in A flat, Op. 26
BEETHOVEN
Piano Sonata in E flat, Op. 7
DEBUSSY
12 Preludes—1st Book
Arraro Benedetti Michelangeli, Piano
£20.00 £16.00 £14.00 £12.00
£8.50 £6.00

Friday 30 April 8.00
Sunday 2 May 3.15
PROKOFIEV
Symphony No. 1 'Classical'
DEBUSSY
Prelude à l'Après-midi d'un Faune
DE RALLA
The Three-cornered Hat: Suite No. 2
BEETHOVEN
Symphony No. 7
Igor Markevitch, Conductor
£7.00 £6.00 £5.00 £4.00 £3.00 £2.00
Sponsored by Peter Silverman
Tickets: Box Office (01) 928 3191

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Student election forgery

Conservative students standing for election to the National Union of Students' national executive, withdrew yesterday after the union's conference in Blackpool heard that forged signatures had been discovered on the nomination forms.

The five, all standing on an anti-NUS platform, voluntarily withdrew from the contest after appearing before the union's election committee. All five, it appears, were unaware the nomination signatures had been forged and the union is taking no action against them.

Mr Barry Wood, a member of the student affairs committee of the Federation of Conservative Students, later said that he had been present when two people filled in the nomination forms in the Conservative Party's headquarters in London.

Mr Timothy Linacre, chairman of the federation, said last night that he would be asking Mr Wood to submit his allegations. "Whoever did this has absolutely no support from the FCS", he said.

Highgrove report denied

Buckingham Palace denied yesterday a newspaper report that the Prince and Princess of Wales planned to sell their house at Highgrove, Gloucestershire, and buy Belton House, the Lincolnshire stately home of Lord Brownlow.

The report, in the *Daily Mail* yesterday, said trustees for Lord Brownlow had accepted in principle an offer of between £2.5m and £3m for the house, set in 600 acres of parkland. Lord Brownlow also described the report as completely untrue.

Former England footballer dies



Mr Dave Clement, aged 34, a former England and Queens Park Rangers full-back, was found dead on Tuesday at the home of his father-in-law at Putney, south London, Scotland Yard said. Mr Clement had sustained stab wounds which appeared to be self-inflicted. A bottle containing what is thought to be weedkiller was by the body.

Mr Clement, who lived at Ewell, Surrey, had been playing for third division Wimbledon. He was known to be depressed about his broken leg.

Belfast ferry start delayed

The Liverpool to Belfast ferry service, which is due to start again today, is delayed because of technical difficulties.

The Irish Continental Line, which stepped in to reopen England's last passenger sea link with Northern Ireland, confirmed yesterday that it has postponed the starting date to May 1.

The service will create 140 jobs for seamen.

Journalists put up union fees

Subscriptions for members of the National Union of Journalists are to rise by 17.3 per cent next year, delegates to the union's annual conference at Warwick University, voted yesterday. Basic grade subscriptions will rise to £72 a year from £62, while maximum grade subscriptions will go up by £14 to £96.

Strike benefit and victimisation pay last year totalled £199,000, more than £80,000 higher than the previous year.

£120 fine for assault

Joseph Domingo, the son of Plácido Domingo, the opera singer, appeared before magistrates in Northampton yesterday and admitted assaulting his girl friend, Domingo, aged 23, was fined £120.

Exile for Squires

Dorothy Squires, the singer, aged 58, is to leave Britain to live and work in the United States, because of "nepotism in the theatre and television bureaucracy, and hounding of the press", she said yesterday.

Army depot closes

The Army Central Ordnance Depot at Chilwell Nottinghamshire closed yesterday after 67 years.

Cabinet to discuss Prior plan on Ulster today

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The Cabinet will discuss the political initiative for Northern Ireland today and, if it is approved, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, is expected to unveil what he describes as a "flexible, workable" and "novel" proposals to the House of Commons next week.

Yesterday the proposals, denounced as unworkable by Mr Charles Haughey, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic, were the main topic of discussion at a 90-minute meeting in London between Mr Prior and Mr Gerard Collins, the republic's foreign affairs minister. Mr Prior defended his proposals at the meeting, at which the border, security, and economic cooperation were also discussed.

Later in Belfast, Mr Prior said: "I am not prepared to talk about failure because this is so important for the whole future of the United Kingdom as well as the people of Northern Ireland that we cannot afford to let it fail. We have all got to work to make it a success."

His proposals for a 78-seat assembly will give that body some powers on debate and legislation, as well as allowing it to form committees that can inquire and suggest policies. It is separate from the other arrangements which could lead to an assembly's having executive power and would come about only after approval by a 70 per cent weighted majority.

Mr Prior said that this "staged" assembly gave an initial opportunity for powers similar to an ordinary legis-

lature. The people and politicians of Northern Ireland recognized that unless there was a way of getting people to meet there was no way in which progress could be made.

"I am saying 'let's take it quietly, let us not build up too many hopes but let us build it quietly but steadily'. The great point about this novel and flexible plan that I am hoping the Cabinet will approve is that it is flexible and it is something new."

He appealed to the province's politicians to realize that compromise would be needed if a settlement was to be reached. Continued deadlock would lead to rising unemployment, further hopelessness, frustration, and alienation.

Giving a Lenten address at St Anne's Cathedral in Belfast, Mr Prior said he wanted to set up a form of Government to allow local politicians to share responsibility for all sections of the community. The majority must recognise that if any new structure was to be stable it must be capable of winning and holding the support to the minority.

The minority had to acknowledge the strength of Unionist tradition and the reality that all-Ireland constitutional structures were not feasible without broad support.

Mr John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, said in a statement after Mr Prior that the SDLP had been told that the White Paper would give explicit and generous recognition to the Irish identity in

Northern Ireland. That would be to a far greater extent than before, he added. However, the party still believes that Mr Prior's proposals are unworkable.

In Dublin Mr Haughey's governing Fianna Fail Party is considered favourite to win the by-election caused by the resignation of Mr Richard Burke, a leading Fine Gael politician, who has accepted Mr Haughey's offer of a post as an EEC commissioner.

Mr Burke's decision to resign his Dublin, West, seat and quit Fine Gael comes after a week of intense maneuvering. At first it had seemed that Mr Haughey's bold move had rebounded, with Mr Burke declining the offer.

Mr Haughey's "political coup" has immediately given him and advantage, with Dr Garret Fitzgerald's party angry and demoralized.

Fine Gael are reduced to 62 seats and Fianna Fail is poised, just three weeks after returning to power, to reduce its dependence for a majority on Independents to one, the reliable Mr Neil Blaney, independent Fianna Fail deputy for Donegal North-West, and an old colleague of the Prime Minister.

Even though Fine Gael hold the Dublin, West seat, the power to decide when a by-election is held rests with Mr Haughey. With Fine Gael demoralized and without an obvious candidate for the seat, Mr Haughey might press home his advantage by calling a snap by-election. His party has a strong candidate in Mrs Eileen Lemass.

Local poll blow to alliance

By Our Political Editor

The Social Democratic and Liberal Alliance has been doing relatively badly, and the SDP particularly badly, in recent local by-elections.

Evidence published in this week's *New Statesman* matches the evidence of opinion polls that support for the alliance, Labour, and the Conservatives is now about equal, and shows that the familiar squeeze exerted by the Labour and Conservative parties on any third party under the first-past-the-post system of voting is taking its toll particularly of SDP candidates.

In by-elections contests over seven weeks, from

February 11 to March 25, the day of the Glasgow, Hillhead, by-election, Liberal candidates won nearly half the seats they fought—16 out of 36; SDP candidates fought 23 and won only 3.

An analysis of the results by Mr Peter Kellner shows that the alliance is losing support in the areas where it most needs it, with the

Local by-elections, Feb 11 to March 25

The executive of the 99-year-old Fabian Society meets tonight to discuss a financial crisis that has been aggravated by the formation of the Social Democratic Party.

The projected deficit for the financial year 1982-83 is put at £38,000 and executive members, including Mr Roy Hattersley, Mr Wedgwood Benn, and Mr Neil Kinnock, will be asked tonight to find savings of £20,000. It is estimated that 70 per cent of the society's spending goes on staff costs for the full-time equivalent of six employees, but there is no proposal to create any redundancies. One executive member said last night: "We could hardly do that with three million unemployed, could we? This is agony."

Mr David Lipsey, chairman of the society and a journalist on the *Sunday Times*, refused to disclose the amount of the predicted

deficit. He said that the problem would be difficult to resolve. One suggestion is that the society's junior staff should have their pay frozen for a year.

The national membership of the society is put at about 7,000 and, although it is thought that it has lost only 100 members to the SDP, the separate donation revenue has fallen by about a third since the SDP was formed a year ago.

The society, which is affiliated to the Labour Party, is committed to socialism. Its rule book says: "It therefore aims at the establishment of a society in which equality of opportunity will be assured and the economic power and privileges of individuals and classes abolished through the collective ownership and democratic control of the economic resources of the community."

The officers, Mr Melvin Jackson, aged 33, Mr Eric Smith, aged 32, and Mr Howard Price, 25, saw officials of the Prison Department's personnel and management section in London yesterday.

Three prison hospital officers acquitted at Leicester Crown Court last month of murdering Mr Barry Fraser in Wilson Green Prison, Birmingham, in August 1980, are to be moved to other penal establishments.

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Sir Stuart returns

Lieutenant-General Sir Stuart Pringle, who had his right leg amputated below the knee in October after his car was blown up by an IRA bomb, returned to his desk at the Ministry of Defence on London yesterday (The Press Association reports).

The Commandant General of the Royal Marines who is 53, told reporters: "I feel fine. As far as my job goes I plan to lead a normal life as from here on."

But Sir Stuart, who still uses crutches, said he had

taken a more cautious approach to his security since being discharged from hospital on Christmas Eve.

One absentee from his side today was his black Labrador Bella which survived the blast outside his home in Dulwich, south London.

Sir Stuart declined to answer questions on the role the Marines were playing in the Falkland Islands. "I am not fully up to date with the Falklands Islands because the Marines there are not under my direct command."

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Family to call for drug inquiry

By Michael Horswell

The death of a man aged 70 a few days after his doctor prescribed a sleeping pill, banned in the Netherlands, has led to doubts among his family about its safety and a call from them for its withdrawal from sale in Britain.

Tomorrow Dr Charles Clark, the Essex Coroner, will be asked to recommend an inquiry into the drug Halcion when he holds an inquest on Mr Fred Hemingway, of Clacton, Essex.

Mr Hemingway, a retired carpenter, went home from hospital on February 10 after treatment for an overdose of sleeping pills. The next day he was found dead in his car after he had fixed a hose from the exhaust into the vehicle.

Mrs Barbara Pound, aged 38, his daughter said yesterday: "He was not depressed nor was he suffering any mental illness. But, I now realize, after he started taking the drug he became peculiar and sounded unlike himself. What happened to him was quite out of character. I think Halcion induces a psychotic state."

Supported by Mr Stanley Pound, her husband, a hospital pharmacist, she cites the evidence of Dr Cress van der Kroef, a Dutch psychiatrist, whose inquiries led to the withdrawal of Halcion in the Netherlands two years ago. He reported that of 80,000 people who took it, about 12,000 suffered adverse side-effects, of whom 22 killed themselves. Five patients reported an "irresistible urge to commit suicide".

The drug was suspended for six months after which Upjohn, its manufacturer, was ordered to list the side effects on the product. It refused and the Dutch Ministry of Health withdrew its registration.

Halcion, which is of the group of hypnotic drugs called benzodiazepines, was licensed in Britain in 1979 by the Department of Health and Social Security's watchdog on drugs, the Committee on Safety of Medicines. The recommended dose is 0.25 milligrams, less than most of the doses that were prescribed in Holland. But after its withdrawal in Holland the committee asked doctors to keep a watch for adverse side effects and announced that it would continue to monitor the drug closely.

Dr van der Kroef says that of the 336 cases he examined 6 per cent involved doses similar to that recommended in Britain. He believes the drug should be banned everywhere.

Dr Norman MacLeod, medical director of Upjohn in Britain, who will attend the inquest on Mr Hemingway, denied that the drug was unsafe and pointed to controlled clinical trials of 8,000 people, including 3,000 in Britain. He said: "These claims are completely unsubstantiated. There is no scientific evidence to support them."

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Science report

'Red' data on mammals updated

By Tony Samstag

The Red Data Books, compiled by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), are the only systematic and authoritative record of endangered species, ranging from lichen to sequoia, flatworm to elephant.

They are the crown jewels of conservation; and some scientists, at least, were bemused at the nearly total absence of fanfare when in 1979 the specialist unit that compiles the books on animals moved from IUCN headquarters near Geneva to new offices at Cambridge University.

With that move the international conservation establishment in effect passed judgment that British was best in terms of the academic resources at the disposal of the scholars, and completed a process that had begun in 1973 when the Threatened Plants Committee, compilers of the Plant Red Data Book, set up offices at Kew Gardens.

The first important publication from the new animal unit has just been released. It is part I of the *Mammal Red Data Book*, updated from 1978, and covering 145 taxa in the Americas, Australia, New Zealand, and New Guinea. Part II, on Africa, is to be published next year, and part III, on Europe and Asia, by 1985. Volumes on reptiles and invertebrates are imminent.

The Red Data Books used to be compiled in looseleaf binders. That system has changed in favour of one fat, bound volume at a time because it was felt that the convenience offered by the looseleaf format for updating (22 mammal entries are already slightly out of date) was more than offset by the books' unwieldy bulk and the tendency of the pages to get lost or stolen.

The new format also reflects "accelerating threats to species survival", says Thomas Hall, one of the compilers, written especially damage to habitats. The printed volumes are at best a reflection and a small sampling of an ever-increasing computerized data base.

In addition to habitat loss, the different mammal groups suffer different threats: Australian marsupials lose in competition for food with rabbits or cattle; marsupials in New Guinea, by contrast, tend to be overhunted as game. Insectivores generally have small ranges, easily obliterated by agriculture or disturbed by tourism, while primates are captured for sale as pets, to zoos or for medical research.

Carnivores, of course, are often hunted for their skins; that was in part the fate of the red wolf in the southern United States, which, while officially listed as endangered rather than extinct, has been declared biologically extinct because virtually all the few animals surviving out of captivity are hybrids. The red wolf is, happily, the nearest example of a new extinction in the book. Eleven previous listings have been removed because they have been reclassified or declared out of danger.

The IUCN *Mammal Red Data Book* Part I, compiled by Jane Thornback and Martin Jenkins, (Conservation Monitoring Centre, 218 Huntingdon Road, Cambridge CB3 0DL; £10).

Senior post on Arts Council for Miss Laski

By Christopher Warran
Arts Correspondent

Marghanita Laski, the novelist, critic, and broadcaster, has been appointed vice-chairman of the Arts Council, it was announced yesterday.

She succeeds Dr Richard Hogarth, whose term of office ended last December. He has said that political pressure from the Government was the reason for the decision not to reappoint him as a member of the council.

The decision to appoint a new vice-chairman was delayed until a new chairman of the council to succeed Mr Kenneth Robinson, whose term of office ended yesterday, had been appointed. It was announced in February that Sir William Rees-Mogg, vice-chairman of the BBC and a former editor to the *Times*, was to be the new chairman.

Miss Laski has been a member of the Council since 1979.

Overseas selling prices: Belgium £ 12.40, Canada \$2.50, Denmark Dkr 12.40, France FF 12.40, Germany DM 12.40, Greece Dr 12.40, Holland Gld 12.40, Ireland £ 12.40, Italy Lit 12.40, Japan Yen 12.40, Korea Won 12.40, Luxembourg Lfr 12.40, Norway Kr 12.40, Portugal Esc 12.40, Spain Ptas 12.40, Sweden Swk 12.40, Switzerland Sfr 12.40, Taiwan NT\$ 12.40, Thailand Baht 12.40, United Kingdom £ 12.40, USA \$ 12.40, Yugoslavia Dina 12.40.

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'Red' data on mammals updated

By Tony Samaras

The Red Data Book, compiled by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), is a systematic record of endangered species, ranging from bison to zebras, and from the dodo to the quagga. It is the only book of its kind, and is used by conservationists and scientists alike. The book is published by the IUCN, which is a non-governmental organization that works to conserve the world's natural resources. The book is divided into two parts: the first part lists the species, and the second part provides information on their status and the threats they face. The book is updated regularly, and the latest edition was published in 1980. It is a valuable resource for anyone interested in conservation.

Science post on Arts Council for sales

The Arts Council has announced a new scheme to help artists sell their work. The scheme, which is called 'Arts Council Post', allows artists to sell their work through the Arts Council's network of galleries and shops. The scheme is designed to help artists who are struggling to find a market for their work. It is a new initiative, and it is hoped that it will be successful in helping artists to sell their work.

Benefits curb on jobless students vexes ministers

By Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent

Ministers in three government departments are considering ways of reversing a ruling made by one civil servant, which strictly curbs the number of hours the unemployed can spend on further education courses without losing supplementary benefit. The Supplementary Benefit (Conditions of Entitlement) Regulations, 1981, state that some unemployed people who take part-time courses at school or college for not more than 21 hours a week may be entitled to continue drawing benefit. But an assistant secretary in the Department of Health and Social Security, Mr Alan Palmer, the Chief Supplementary Benefit Officer, has ruled recently that time spent on meal breaks and in private study must be included in the 21 hours. To the intense embarrassment of ministers in Mr Palmer's department, the Department of Education and Science, and the Department of Employment, Mr Palmer has this month issued a 35p booklet, *Guidance to Supplementary Benefit Officers*, giving his independent legal interpretation of last year's statutory instrument. He says: "Do not limit the hours of attendance at the course to hours of direct instruction, but on or off the private study (on or off the college or school premises, eg, homework) and lunch breaks. For example, a claimant who is at college from 9 am to 4 pm two days a week and is expected to do a further seven hours' private study is 'attending' his course for 21 hours a week." Mr Jeffrey Rooker, an Opposition spokesman on social security, said yesterday that that had led to charges that the department was employing "homework

Asian young meet job bias, survey shows

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

Twice as many Asian school-leavers in Bradford, West Yorkshire, fail to get jobs as white school-leavers in the city, although their educational qualifications are about the same and in some cases better, according to research sponsored by the EEC and the Department of Education and Science, which is published today. The research shows that 12 months after leaving school in 1980, 72 per cent of Asians were still without a real job, compared with 36 per cent of all school-leavers aged 16 in the city. Of the Asian school-leavers, 41 per cent were unemployed, and a further 31 per cent were on Manpower Services Commission Youth Opportunities or work experience programmes, compared with 19 per cent and 14 per cent respectively among Bradford school-leavers as a whole. A survey by Bradford City Council of educational qualifications of school-leavers in 1979 showed that 31 per cent of ethnic minority pupils (most of whom are Asian) obtained at least one O level with grade C or better, compared with 33 per cent of whites; a further 49 per cent obtained at least one CSE qualification, compared with 36 per cent of whites. Mr Douglas Jones, an economist at Thames Polytechnic, and Mr Michael Campbell, an economist at Leeds Polytechnic, who carried out the research, conclude that only skin colour, and the assumption that Asians have certain characteristics which fit them only for certain kinds of work, could explain why Asian school-leavers fared so badly in the labour market. A report published yesterday by Cheshire County Council calls on employers to discriminate positively, in favour of young people, to stop the rapid increase in youth unemployment.



Placard-waving children among mothers and teachers at yesterday's rally.

Parents join striking teacher's lobby

As the strike by the National Union of Teachers in the London borough of Barking neared the end of its sixth week, an estimated 3,000 teachers, parents, children and councillors marched from Tower Hill to Westminster yesterday to lobby MPs as a further protest against the planned teacher redundancies in the borough (Our Education Correspondent writes). Barking plans to reduce its teaching force of 1,400 by 159 between last September and April next year. Sixty jobs have gone and now appear inevitable compulsory redundancies. The cuts will lead to a deterioration in the pupil-teacher ratio of 17.6:1, which is about average for greater London. The NUT, which has 900 members in the borough, says that the authority's plans mean that the number of secondary school teachers will be cut by 17 per cent over the 18-month period while the number of secondary school pupils is expected to fall by only 7 per cent, and that the number of primary school pupils is expected to fall by only 5 per cent. The education of thousands of pupils has been disrupted for half the spring term by the strike, and 10 schools are closed. The strike is costing the union £100,000 a week in strike pay. The Nut has been mounting a picket, preventing delivery vans from going through, but allowing members of other teacher unions to cross the picket line. Some schools have to close because of a shortage of heating fuel and other supplies rather than because of the shortage of staff. However there seems no sign of any change of heart by the council, which has to find savings of £2.7m in its education budget over the next two years. The council says that it hopes that it will be able to shed the jobs without compulsory redundancies.

MP moves to deter young glue-sniffers

By David Hewson

Glue manufacturers will be forced to add a foul-smelling chemical to their products to deter glue-sniffers if an amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill, tabled by Mr Allan Roberts, Labour MP for Bootle, becomes law. Mr Roberts said yesterday that he had tabled the clause because he was convinced that glue-sniffing among teenagers was a growing problem. Mr Roberts also called for the Government to undertake a study that would produce detailed evidence about the extent of the problem. No hard facts about the incidence of glue-sniffing exist, although it is known that 22 young people died in Britain last year through inhaling solvents, and a total of 60 are thought to have died since 1979. Mr Roberts's move was criticized by Mr Peter Bosworth, secretary of the British Adhesive Manufacturers' Association. Five American states demand that solvent-based glues contain oil of mustard to deter sniffing. But the additive tended to increase the likelihood of vomiting, which was already one of the chief hazards facing sniffers, Mr Bosworth said. The industry also objected to the additives because they would be as obnoxious to those who used glue properly as to those who misused the product. "Glue sniffing is basically a social problem", Mr Bosworth added. According to Mrs Eve Merrill, a social worker whose book on glue sniffing was published yesterday, the problem had been exaggerated to some extent by the media. All the evidence indicates that glue sniffing for the majority of youngsters is simply a passing phase. The book claims that there has been no evidence to indicate that glue-sniffing carries any serious health risk, although its effects, which are similar to drunkenness, can lead to accidents and asphyxiation through the inhaling of vomit while the user is unconscious. Glue-sniffing by Eve Merrill (Priority Educational Programme for Action and Research; £3.50).

Illegal art exports worry

By Frances Gibb

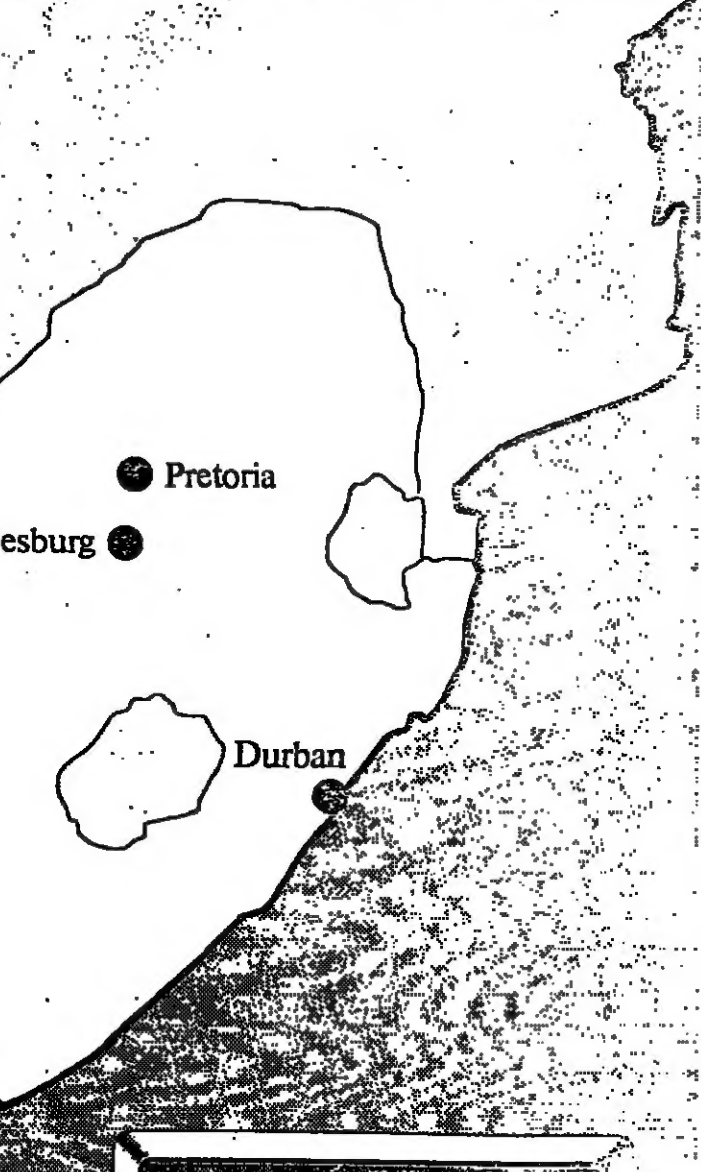

The Government's Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art, is concerned about illegal exports by foreign visitors who are ignorant of the export rules. According to the March bulletin of the Fine Art Trade Guild, the committee has asked for the help of the art trade in bringing the regulations to the attention of foreign buyers. Concern has been expressed in particular by the British Council for Archaeology after the advertising in the United States of "treasure trove" package holidays, some in Britain. Professor John White, chairman of the committee, said yesterday: "There has not been a major loss, or scandal. But there is some concern that a number of smaller objects are getting out, simply through ignorance of the rules." The reviewing committee asked the British Airports Authority if it might put up posters on the subject for foreign visitors, but the BAA declined on the ground that there was a more urgent need for other information to be posted. Mr Hugh Leggatt, secretary of Heritage at Danger, said yesterday that he believed any such losses were minimal. Mr Leggatt added that dealers had a financial incentive to ensure that the rules were observed since value added tax was not levied on works of art where export could be proved.

Help for claimants sought


By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

More advice for social security claimants and equal treatment for the unemployed in claiming supplementary benefits were recommended by a government-appointed committee yesterday. The fact that the unemployed cannot, after a year, claim long-term supplementary benefit of £10 a week more than the short-term rate was condemned as wholly unjust. The Social Security Advisory Committee, which replaced the Supplementary Benefits Commission, recommended increases of £680m on a spending bill for social security of £28,000m. Some of its recommendations, made to the Government last October but published for the first time yesterday, have been adopted and were incorporated in the Budget. In particular, the Government accepted the demand that the 2 per cent shortfall in benefits in November, 1981, should be made good this year and also accepted that the £2,000 savings threshold for supplementary benefit should be raised to £2,500. But most of the recommendations have not been implemented. Sir Arthur Armitage, chairman of the committee, and former Vice-Chancellor of Manchester University, said the committee's philosophy was that, even at a time of economic difficulty, "the most vulnerable people, those dependent on social security, have to be protected whatever sacrifices are made by the rest of society". The committee requested that the worth of supplementary benefit and Family Income Supplement should be maintained and increased when possible. More people should be encouraged to claim, since only three quarters of those entitled to supplementary benefit received it, Sir Arthur said. Child benefit, raised in the Budget, should be restored to its April, 1979, level and the 5 per cent cut in unemployment benefit made in 1980 should be restored when the benefit came into tax in July this year. On the extension of the long-term rate of supplementary benefit to the unemployed, Sir Arthur said it was clearly unjust that the sick, elderly, and disabled should be eligible and the unemployed excluded. The rationale of the higher long-term rate is that after a year on supplementary benefit savings are exhausted and essential replacements mean higher expenditure. "It is a manifest injustice to apply this rationale to some claimants and not others", the report said. In calling for more advice for claimants, Sir Arthur agreed that the present system was complex and difficult to understand. First report of the Social Security Advisory Committee, Stationery Office, £7.50p

After 70 days in a South African prison, Neil Aggett died.



9.30 TONIGHT: "TV EYE" examines the controversy surrounding the death of white trade union leader Dr. Neil Aggett. In a country where more than 50 black South Africans have already died in custody, the Authorities claim that Aggett committed suicide. His family and supporters refuse to accept he could have killed himself.



THE BEST VIEW IN LONDON.

Architecture



The flats designed by John Melvin in Blackstock Road, north London.

Design gives flats the villa look

By Charles McKean

Architects now acknowledge that designing flats does not mean that they have to look like flats, whatever the inherent quality of a flat may be held to be. The fact that people live in flats, so the argument goes, does not in any way lessen their need or desire to feel at home. So what do people mean by home? The revivalists are budding with spring, with their plastic thatch and rent-a-swallow for the eaves. But — even in London — such an image is perhaps too ersatz. Furthermore, where the architect has looked beyond the plastic thatch, the notion of "home" is difficult to pinpoint. Parisian like Bertold Lubek, the Royal Gold Medal winner, would hold that such notions are (or were) "fun-gus" and that the building form would arise from a combination of such elements as the user's requirements, the location of the building, the inspiration of the architect and the requirements of geometry. An easy standpoint for somebody who ceased practice over 30 years ago: modern architects' inspiration and user requirements both frequently include the thatch angle. John Melvin's scheme of flats in Blackstock Road, London, N15, opts for the easily identifiable form of early Victorian villas. The scheme contains 24 flats for childless couples, and the site slopes. Thus we have a series of symmetrically designed villas, rather like those grand piles to be found in Highbury and Kensington in stucco and brick, each one slightly lower than its neighbour, thus marking the slope in a traditional and very attractive manner complete with garden walls and pillared gateway. The methods are simple: oversailing pitched roof with eaves, well designed chimney stacks and projecting party wall, projecting entrance hall and stairway, round-headed main door, and some variation with the wall plane. Those who know the architect's earlier scheme in Penton Road, Islington, will notice the similarities. The main difference lies in the fact that each block is self-contained and at a different level, and in the roof and

PM seeks three-pronged solution to EEC budget

EEC SUMMIT

The heads of government of the member states of the European Community agreed at their European Council meeting in Brussels on Monday and Tuesday that all had the same interest in combating unemployment and restoring economic growth while preserving monetary stability and ensuring the continuity of their economies. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said when reporting to the House of Commons on the meeting.

Mrs Thatcher said: The Council expressed its concern at the level of unemployment in the member states and agreed that the Community and the member states would take whatever steps were necessary to improve that level, while recognizing that an increase in investment would mean a reduction in consumption.

During our discussions I laid particular stress on the need to complete the Common Market in the services sector. We have made disappointingly little headway with the liberalization of services such as insurance and air transport.

We also discussed the role that the Community can play in the development of information technology and the need to ensure that small businesses can make the most of the new jobs.

In particular, we agreed that the persistence of high real interest rates in the industrialized world, leading to a significant reduction in the rate of investment and making unemployment worse because of the squeeze on company liquidity and profits.

The Council urged Japan to open its market so as to integrate it more fully into international trade. We also urged Japan to follow an economic, commercial and monetary policy which was more compatible with the balance of responsibilities to be borne by the whole of the industrialized world, thereby contributing to economic recovery.

On youth unemployment, which was a matter of special concern, we agreed that each member state would strive to ensure over the next five years that a young person entering the labour market for the first time would receive vocational training or initial work experience.

In our discussion of external policies, the Council looked forward to the Versailles economic summit in June. We agreed that our aim at the summit should be to encourage increased cooperation between the major industrial countries.

On the mandate, we had a relatively brief discussion in the light of the recent suggestions put forward by Mr Tindemans and Mr Thorn. We and most other member states were prepared to accept these proposals as a basis for negotiation.

I emphasized the need for a solution to the United Kingdom budget problem which gave us a fair share of compensation, which was sufficiently flexible to take account of either an improvement or a deterioration in the underlying situation and which would last for a substantial period.

I underlined the conclusion we had all reached in London in November that decisions on all aspects of the mandate must be taken together, that is to say decisions on the budget, the common agricultural policy and the industrial and social affairs of the Community.

At this point the President of France stated that he could not accept the Thorn-Tindemans proposals as a basis for discussion.

As the presidential conclusions indicate, foreign affairs ministers have been asked to do all in their power to secure a decision in Luxembourg on April 3.

The Council also had a very full discussion of trans-Atlantic relations and welcomed the very warm message sent by President Reagan on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the European Community.

We agreed that it was essential not to lose sight of the significant role played by the Community in the world. There can be no solution except on the basis which two-thirds of the United Nations have endorsed, and which the Soviet Union has so far refused.

On Central America, our main conclusion was the need to support any initiative that could bring an end to the violence and the suffering of the people.

We noted proposals by Mexico and Honduras among others. We agreed that economic aid given to Central America and the Caribbean should be coordinated and, where possible, increased.

We discussed the economic and commercial state of east-west relations, in the light of the significant role played by the Community in the world.

We agreed that these matters, including the related credit and trade issues, should be furthered by the European Community and member states in close consultation with other members of OECD.

In Poland, where martial law continues in force, many thousands of persons are detained, and a dialogue with the Church and with Solidarity is still suspended.

This was not the moment for a major statement of policy on the Middle East.

We expressed grave concern about the situation in the area, especially on the West Bank. The Council welcomed, as a contribution to the achievement of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, the participation of four member states in the Sinai multinational force. The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary is paying an official visit to Israel today and tomorrow.

This was a very busy Council in its discussion both of Community affairs and of international problems. While we were all disappointed and surprised at the attitude of the French Government on the mandate, the same realism will have to be applied to decisions on those problems as was applied in the wider discussions during this European Council.

Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Opposition, said he referred to her capacity for stubbornness. We recognize that she has that capacity. As long as she is stubborn in defence of the legitimate interests of the British people she will have some support from this side of the House. (Conservative MP in Opposition.) Yes considerable support, much more generous support than Mr John Silkin received when he was defending the legitimate interests of the British people in the discussions at the European Council.

Mrs Thatcher has no difficulty about the mandate from this House. The mandate was given to her on two or three occasions. The mandate is that she should secure a veto contribution. That was the proposal and the demand carried in the resolution passed on July 16, 1979, in this House. (Conservative MP in Opposition.) Yes, that is the opinion of the House, and that is the view which we believe has to be translated into action.

When she is defending the mandate from this House, she is surprised at some of the attitudes in the Council over the last day or two, she cannot have taken account of the debate in this House, when many of us prophesied that we would have to face these difficulties.

That is one of the reasons why more and more, up and down the country, people say we would be better off with the European Union and eastern Europe.

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is impeding the economic expansion in Europe as a whole.

While these views must apply to full employment situation, we are far from a full employment situation. We are facing not merely three million unemployed in this country, but 11 million in the Community as a whole.

What is required is a much bigger concerted expansion and investment programme than anything which Mrs Thatcher has been prepared to contemplate in this country.

We can understand how she fails to defend these policies in Europe when she has not advocated them in Britain.

Would she be prepared to consider a more open, adventurous and ambitious policy on these matters in preparation for the Versailles economic summit?

We believe in a world suffering from such appalling unemployment with rising unemployment in the world of great advantage to the Versailles economic summit.

It would be a great disaster for the world if nothing more is offered at the end of the summit than the status quo.

Nothing concrete or expansive has been proposed in what she has said. It is a situation comparable to the needs of the Government in the discussions.

We want her to explain why she has not been prepared to advocate in Brussels any proposals which would really help the economy in this country. I am glad that in her communication she has joined with others in Europe in welcoming a new initiative from the European Council. That is a considerable advance from what was said by the Government in our debate a few weeks ago.

We urge the Government then that it should accept and act upon the new initiative that was coming from the European Council. We urge the Government to do that. Instead they gave support to the gruesome fiasco of the elections in El Salvador.

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Rhys Williams: What reason?

This year we shall be making a modest net contribution, but some £13m of refunds were returned to this country in respect of last year's budget.

There would be more coming in money — which the last Government would have left us to pay to Europe but for our negotiations. They talked a lot about it but did nothing to negotiate on the mandate.

If we do not succeed in getting agreement on the whole of the mandate this year the arrangement we made at the last negotiations proceeds through this year and would apply in respect of the refunds we would receive in the first quarter of next year.

We regard it as urgent to achieve a full and satisfactory solution, but it has to be on all three parts of the mandate at the same time — the budget, the common agricultural policy and the industrial and social affairs of the Community.

The decision not to go ahead with the Thorn-Tindemans formula will, undoubtedly, hold up agreement on all three of these things whereas we do wish to come to a conclusion.

On the investment programme, we were realistic about the solution to the unemployment problem. What Mr Foot is looking for is a magic wand in the absence of any practical policies.

What we were saying in a prolonged discussion with all countries affected by severe unemployment was that we were going to go faster than in this country, that there is no magic wand. If we are to have increased investment then we have to have reduced consumption.

The only alternative would be substantially increased interest rates, and we would all agree how undesirable that would be. Rates down and to pursue any policy that would put these up.

European Council yesterday to the same effect.

Mr Alan Clark (Plymouth, Devon, Con) said that if they might suggest that if they are serious about improving relations between the UK and Israel, they might desist from using the word 'settlers'.

Mr Roland Moyle, an Opposition spokesman on foreign and defence, said that he was not sure if this point will come up, but I have a great deal of sympathy with that view.

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Spearing: Client state

Mr Foot: When Mrs Thatcher talks about a reluctance to have elections, why does she deny to the people of El Salvador what the British Government and the British Parliament insisted upon in the case of Zimbabwe — that the fighting had to stop before elections could be held?

We are glad that many other countries took the same view as we do about the elections. In spite of the difficulties the large turn out in the El Salvador election was greater than anyone had thought.

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seems to have lost sight of that choice. In spite of her stubbornness at her press conference, it seems she is yielding now. I ask her to go back to Brussels and tell them of the Community, the Third World aid deal with a different aspect of the budget.

There was considerable agreement that either we have to get increased investment by increased taxation so that we can invest more, or by asking for reduced wage increases so we had money available to go towards investment which had not been used up by wage increases, or it would have meant increasing borrowing and increasing interest rates.

As one of the objectives at the moment is to hold down the British interest rate, other countries already are in difficulties by having pushed it up further — add because we are conscious of the effect of interest rates on agriculture and small businesses, we are not prepared to do anything to push up interest rates.

Mr Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Battersea North, Lab): There would be much less advantage in this country and France if we both followed our own internal policies and paid for them ourselves.

Mrs Thatcher: For the vast majority of our budget we do follow our own internal policies. For the rest, we are seeking some advantages from Europe which we have not yet obtained, particularly in services.

Mr Brandon (Rhys Williams, Kensington, Con): Was she able to discern any good reason why the socialist government in France would be more likely to pay for their own policies and pay for them themselves?

Mrs Thatcher: No. We were surprised and disappointed at the suddenness of the intervention. Mr Nigel Spearing (Newham, South, Lab): The Lord Privy Seal (Mr Humphrey Atkins) said he hoped there would be a five-year agreement in terms of the budgetary arrangements. Continual bargaining every five years is wholly unsatisfactory since it means that in the intervening period the United Kingdom is a free rider.

Do not the arguments in favour of membership diminish every year?

Mrs Thatcher: No. The United Kingdom is not a client state. We want a five-year agreement with a review at the end of it. I do not want a permanent argument about this matter. We are also trying to secure appropriate changes in CAP policy, which was part of the mandate.

Mr Alton (Liverpool, Edgemoor, Lab): Was there any discussion on finalization of the common fisheries policy in view of the serious problems our fishermen are facing?

Mrs Thatcher: Not during the last conference, but in the margins of it.

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Luce delays his trip to Mexico

OVERSEAS

Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said he would be postponing his visit to Mexico for a few days in order to exchange views with the Central American situation. Mr Luce was due to leave tonight (Wednesday) but the visit had been temporarily postponed, he said.

Asked for a statement on the situation in El Salvador, Mr Luce said: The rest of the visit is not yet final. No one party appears to have an overall majority. The British Government takes the view that if El Salvador is to achieve peace and stability, there is a need for peaceful rather than violent change and full respect for human rights and further progress on social and economic reform.

Mr David Alton (Liverpool, Edgemoor, Lab): In view of the legitimate concern of the British Government that there should be a concerted response to Poland, Afghanistan, and the Middle East, why does not the same view on its response to Central American problems?

Why did it fall out of line in the vote in the United Nations on November 16 on human rights and break line on the question of observers?

Mr Luce: It is right and important that members of the European Community should continue to exchange views about central Latin America and that will become increasingly important in the coming weeks.

What matters, if peace and stability are to be achieved, is that the United Nations should be able to play a key role.

They have important views to express. It is important for us to keep in touch with what is going on in the region. Mr Luce said he was in the region and would be in the region for a period of more than three years.

As a result of comments received in the consultation process and on the further consideration and advice of the Foreign Medical Advisory Panel on Epilepsy, licences would continue to be granted to people who had established a pattern of attacks only whilst asleep over a period of more than three years.

Regulations on epileptic drivers
Regulations to make it easier for people who have suffered epileptic attacks to qualify for driving licences will come into operation on April 21, Mrs Lynda Chalker, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said in a written reply.

She said the regulations laid before Parliament would reduce the period free from all attacks before an ordinary licence could be issued from three to two years.

Any good vehicle licence applicants must have been free from any epileptic attack since reaching the age of five, instead of three.

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sticking by the decision to send observers so that we may be informed of the nature and outcome of the elections.

Will he confirm that the Government will support a negotiated settlement with all interested parties?

Mr Luce: We do all we can to foster respect for human rights and change and human rights. I was due to leave for Mexico tonight for talks with the Mexican Government about that part of our work.

We also discussed the situation in Poland, where martial law continues in force, many thousands of persons are detained, and a dialogue with the Church and with Solidarity is still suspended.

Mr Luce: I do not see how Mr Healey sitting in the Commons can say that sweeping conclusions at this stage. We should wait to see what the observers have to say and then discuss it.

Mr Healey: The minister has given a figure of those voting which is well under half of those of electoral age. Those who have not voted have broken the law in El Salvador, yet 60 per cent choose to break the law rather than vote unless they had been forced into emigration by the actions of the previous government.

The majority of those who voted voted for parties of the extreme right wing and a man who has described President Duarte as a tool of communism. Is that the view of the Minister of State?

Mr Luce: That is a rather inaccurate picture in which to approach this problem. Let us wait and see what the observers have to say. We should wait to see what the observers have to say and then discuss it.

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Whitelaw attack on GLC chief's police criticism

By Richard Evans

Mr William Whitelaw yesterday rebuked, in the strongest terms, the leader of the Greater London Council and its police committee chairman for their outspoken attacks on the capital's police force.

The Home Secretary said he strongly deplored the repeated criticism levelled by Mr Kenneth Livingstone at the Metropolitan Police Commissioner-designate, six months before he was due to take up the post.

During a 70-minute meeting with a GLC police committee delegation headed by Mr Paul Boateng, the committee chairman, Mr Whitelaw said he found it astonishing that the head of the GLC should see fit to attack an appointment to what was undoubtedly the most demanding operational job in the police service.

Sir Kenneth Newman was entitled to look to leaders of the community for their good will and support in the difficult task that he faced.

Mr Whitelaw said Mr Boateng had strongly objected to his recent comments about "institutionalized racism" in the Metropolitan Police. He said he found it interesting that the GLC was apparently ready to go along with the great majority of Lord Scarman's recommendations, but was prepared to ignore Lord Scarman's finding that the direction and policies of the police were not racist.

The police committee had expressed a contrary view without producing any evidence, he added.

The tough stance displayed by Mr Whitelaw became apparent at the start of the meeting, which was held at the GLC's request to discuss the Scarman report and policing policies for London.

He said that before the delegation made its points he wished it to be clear that he strongly resented the much publicized comments made by Mr Livingstone.

The Home Secretary then listened to the arguments put forward, but gave no guarantees or promises. It seems unlikely that there will be a

repeat of yesterday's discussion in the near future. Mr Whitelaw believes the GLC should be allowed to settle before deciding on future meetings.

At the meeting Mr Boateng emphasized the urgency of implementing the recommendations contained in Lord Scarman's report, particularly in relation to a police disciplinary code and making a specific disciplinary offence.

He said London would be best served by having its own police authority made up of elected representatives, but said Mr Whitelaw "was adamant that the present constitutional arrangements are not ones that are going to be changed and he would remain the police authority".

Mr Boateng said the recent tabulation of crime statistics by the Metropolitan Police was repeated and a wholly independent police complaints procedure should be established. He urged Mr Whitelaw not to be panicked by Conservative backbenchers into repeating the "saturation" policing seen in Brixton last year.

London police to screen for bias

The Metropolitan Police is to introduce an experimental battery of tests designed to help in weeding out recruits with extreme attitudes, including racial bias, (our Political Correspondent writes).

Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State at the Home Office, feels that it would be premature to disclose full details of the tests because of the experimental nature of the vetting procedures.

But he has indicated in a letter to Mr John Tilley, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs, that Lord Scarman's recommendation on race bias in the police service is being pursued.

Lord Scarman disclosed in his report on the Brixton disorders that the Metropolitan Police was exploring, with American assistance, whether attitude screening can be put on a more systematic, scientific basis.

Letters, page 11

200,000 CB radio sets licensed

By Kenneth Gosling

More than 200,000 licences for citizens' band radio, which became legal last November, had been sold over post office counters by mid-March. There is no sign of the rate of sale, between 7,000 and 8,000 a week abating. Licences cost £10 each.

Many more CB sets are still being used illegally on the AM frequency, the Government is considering whether to make it an offence to sell AM sets as well as to use them.

The Consumers' Association has been monitoring members' comments on CB and today publishes the results in a Which report.

Drawbacks for users, who can only transmit legally using FM (frequency modulation), include bad language, found to be especially worrying to members with children; children using them as toys; blocking channels; and annoying other people; and interference from illegal high-powered transmitters in Britain or abroad.

The association warns users against relying on CB in an emergency, although some voluntary organizations listen for distress calls, the official rescue services do not.

Advantages include relieving the burden of long journeys (although it is also admitted that the thrill of idle chatter to complete strangers can soon wear off); receiving and giving information about road conditions; a good means of contact for the housebound and disabled, particularly in isolated areas; and in the open country, for instance, between farmers and tractor drivers; and a good thing for small businesses where, in confined areas, CB is a cheaper alternative to radiotelephone or radiopaging.

Apartheid row over Eisteddfod

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

A political dispute over apartheid is threatening this year's Llangollen International Eisteddfod. Lord Chalfont, the president, and Mr Allan Rogers, Labour European MP for Wales South-East, and vice-president, have each demanded the other's resignation after allegations of hypocrisy.

Mr Rogers has called upon every local authority in Wales to withhold financial support from the festival until Lord Chalfont resigns and the organizers sever links with South Africa.

The Welsh anti-apartheid movement has made Lord Chalfont a target because he is president of the Freedom in Sport Association, which they say is a South African-funded front organization — an allegation that is firmly denied. They also accuse him of hypocrisy because he attended an eisteddfod in South Africa last year.

Black and white competitors from South Africa have appeared at Llangollen for many years and Mr J. Noel Bowen, the chairman of the Eisteddfod, said yesterday: "Llangollen is for people of all creeds and colours and they are invited whether we agree with the regimes in their country or not."

Mr Rogers said: "I find it incredible that people from the cultural and social traditions of Wales are able to succour and give credence to a political system that discriminates on the basis of colour."

Lord Chalfont said he had no intention of resigning in the face of what he called blackmail. "I suppose they are taking this action because the Freedom in Sport Association did not object to the English cricketers going to South Africa. We take the view they have a perfect right to go wherever they please."

Consistency plea to JPs

By a Staff Reporter

Electricity boards are urging magistrates to be more consistent in their sentencing to help curb the growing problem of electricity theft in inner cities. Such thefts are costing millions of pounds a year.

In the April issue of *The Magistrate's Journal*, the Magistrates' Association, Mr J. W. Evans, deputy chairman of the London Electricity Board, says that in the past few years there have been many more cases of people stealing electricity.

They involve either interference with the meter to cut the recorded use; by-passing the meter; or reconnecting the supplies where meters have been removed.

All methods are dangerous, Mr Evans says, and can cause shocks, burns or fires. But the public often regard such theft "in much the same light as avoidance of payment of income tax."

The problem is particularly acute in crowded inner city areas, especially London, Liverpool, and Glasgow. But although cases often come before magistrates, no uniform line is taken. In some cases a nominal fine of £5 or £10 is imposed on social grounds; in others, prison is threatened.

He cites one case in London in which the owner of multiple properties was sentenced to three years on each of 23 offences to run concurrently and ordered to pay costs up to £1,500 and £16,500 compensation, with the right for the board to pursue civil damages.

Irony last stand of the diehards in the bunker

From Christopher Walker
Yamit, March 31

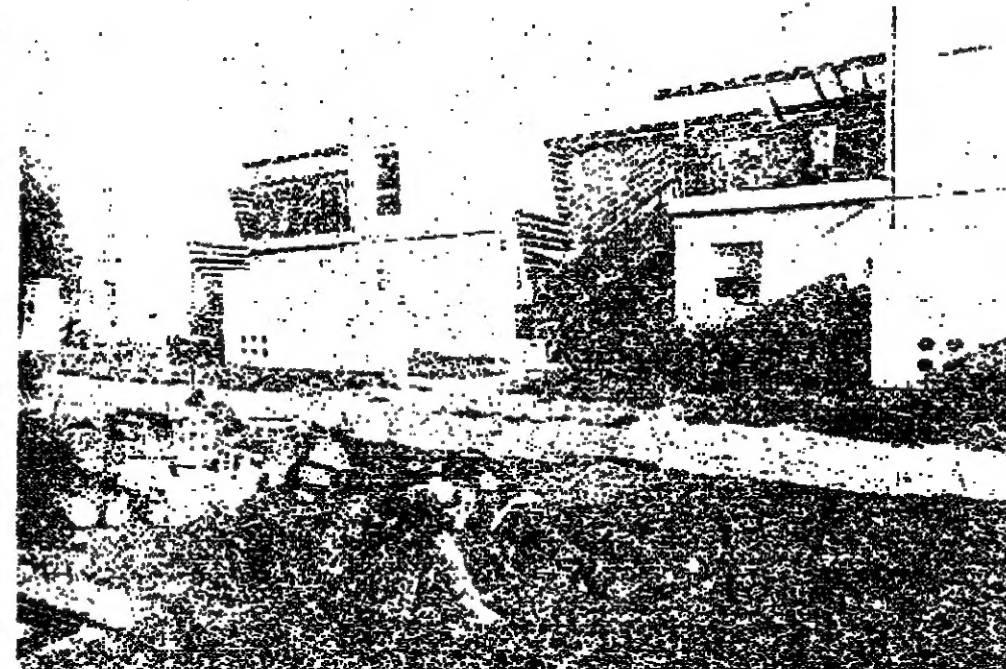
With the midnight deadline for the voluntary evacuation of all Jewish settlers from the Sinai only hours away, the area today provided little evidence of the mass confrontation with the Army which had been repeatedly threatened by the militants.

At the entrance to the main town of Yamit, a giant white dove had been painted on the sand dunes by a local Israeli artist who explained that its purpose was to convey a message of peace to the Egyptians. Close by, two Israeli soldiers lay stripped to the waist, basking in the spring sunshine.

Throughout the day, the road north was filled with lorries and trailers carrying the possessions of most of the remaining families to new homes inside Israel. Although many expressed emotion about leaving, most appeared more concerned with the practicalities of moving.

As soon as a house was vacated, it was being immediately occupied by troops to prevent any takeover by members of the Stop the Withdrawal campaign. The campaigners have already moved into several houses and erected fortifications, but it is believed that they will put up only token resistance.

Hanna, a 21-year-old student nurse who arrived two weeks ago from Jerusalem, said: "My brother is a soldier, it is our Army and we do not want to fight them. But we want to show the world how deeply we feel about having to leave our land."



At ease: Israeli soldiers relaxing as Sinai is evacuated

On the roofs of some of the occupied houses, militants have stockpiled cabbages, which are apparently intended as ammunition to hurl at troops. Others fly the Star of David.

The main centre of resistance is a white air raid shelter, dubbed Masada after an earlier Jewish siege, which is covered with graffiti and occupied by an unspecified number of teenage supporters of the extreme Kach group headed by Rabbi Meir Kahane.

Already Israeli commen-

tators have noted the irony that most of the diehards in the bunker — which is surrounded by a symbolic barrier of barbed wire and tyres — have only been in Israel a few weeks. Most came to Sinai from New York, and this morning I counted about 10 young supporters of the group anxiously hitch-hiking north.

Although no one doubts the ability of Kach to create violence, it is not expected to be on a wide scale. Even on the emotional last day of voluntary evacuation, it was

obvious that members of the group were shunned by most of the Stop the Withdrawal activists.

Mrs Esther Bazak, who is in charge of finding accommodation for the anti-withdrawal supporters who have been arriving under cover of darkness, expressed revulsion at the Kahane group. "We do not want to know about them," she said.

Today, a group of British and American correspondents tried in vain to persuade the shelter dwellers to come to the surface and explain their views, but they



refused — apparently fearful because Rabbi Kahane believes that the Israelis are intent on putting him back into administrative detention for a second time.

The scene took on an atmosphere of farce as a reporter from the *Washington Post* shouted through the grille, which provides the only entrance to the shelter (the door having been welded): "If you are scared of unarmed journalists, what will you be like when the soldiers arrive?" He did not receive a reply.

As with much of the resistance to the withdrawal, the fortifications and threats surrounding Rabbi Kahane's "Masada" have been staged largely for the benefit of television cameras.

Exact calculation of numbers who will stay on tomorrow to resist the troops is impossible, because for propaganda purposes the militants have from the outset deliberately overestimated their support. But no observer today was prepared to put the total at more than a few hundred, and many of those were expected to pack up before midnight.

Yugoslavia faces the cost of Kosovo

From Our Correspondent
Belgrade, March 31

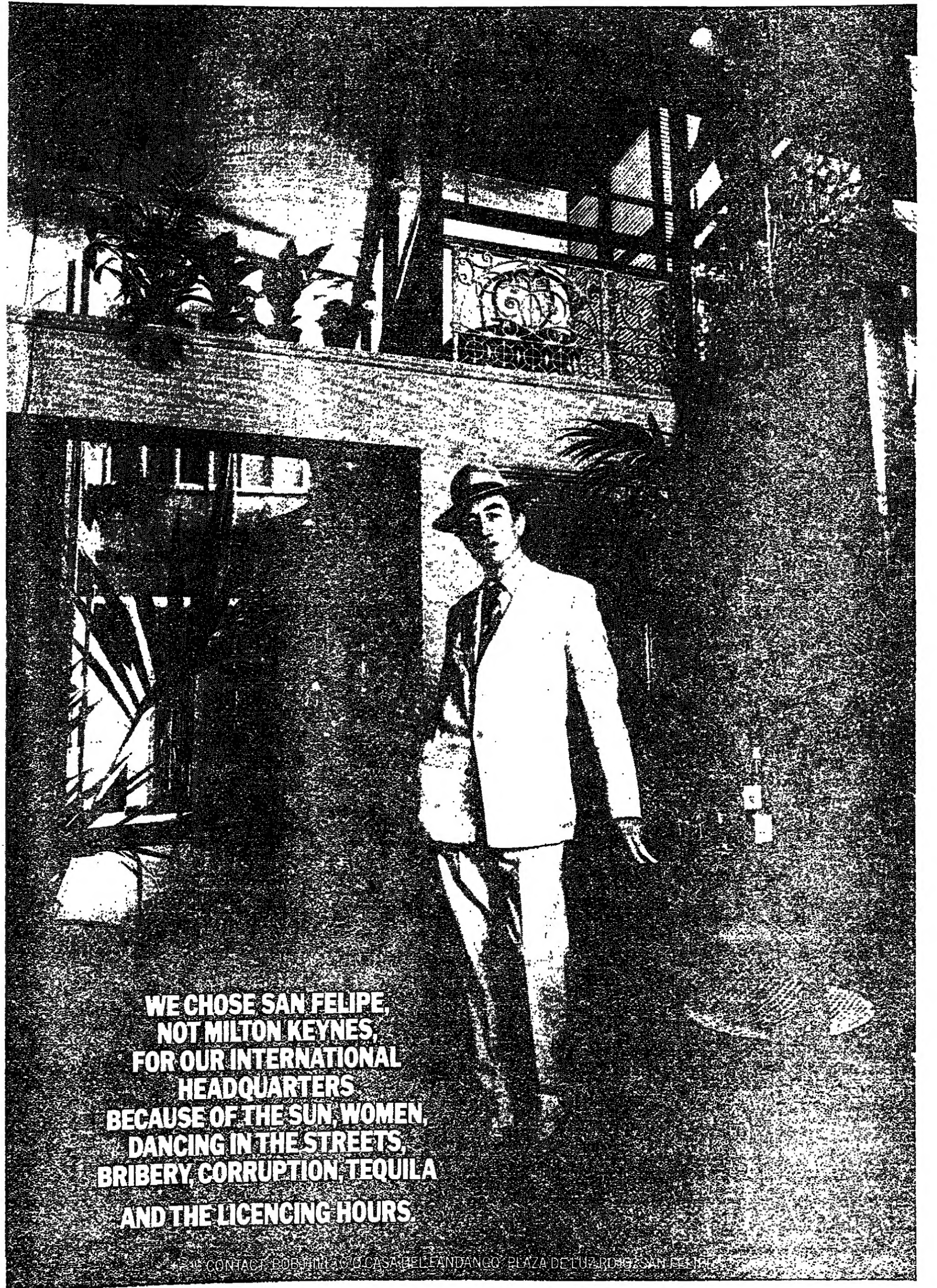
Tomorrow is the first anniversary of violent demonstrations in Kosovo in which nine died, but Yugoslavia appears no nearer to solving the problems raised by Albanian nationalism.

More than 400 ethnic Albanians have been sentenced to long terms of imprisonment and another 100 are awaiting trial since the eruption of nationalist feelings shook the country and confronted the Government with an assertive nationalism.

A report compiled by the federal Government and submitted for parliamentary debate also disclosed that in the past year more than 1,200 were given light sentences for disturbing the peace and for disturbing the police had uncovered 40 illegal organizations with a membership of 600, allegedly aided from Albanian organizations outside the country.

The riots, which started in March apparently over a non-political grievance among students in a university canteen, increased in violence. Attacks also grew against Yugoslav institutions and representatives in the West, leaving seven Yugoslavs dead and 20 injured, the report said.

The figures illustrate that nationalism has now spread widely and outside the Kosovo region, wherever there are Albanian communities.



Battle of budget darkens EEC farm price talks

From Ian Murray, Brussels, March 31

European agriculture ministers this morning began the annual ritual of a three-day session to agree farm prices for the year ahead. They were well aware that whatever they decided could not take effect unless there were early agreement on the size of Britain's contribution to the EEC budget.

Mr Peter Walker, the British minister, made it quite clear from the outset that "there was no question" of agreeing a price increase without a settlement of the budget question. He said it was already accepted in the Community that the agricultural policy reform had to be settled in parallel with the budget question.

Speaking pointedly to the French, who are striving desperately to uncouple the two subjects, he said that the only countries that could ignore the budget question were those who made no contribution to the budget. It would be absurd, he said, if the British Government did not take the budget question into account in fixing prices.

Not to be outdone, Mme Edith Cresson, the French Minister, said that "if there is too much unjustified delay motivated by other than agricultural objectives, then France will draw the necessary conclusions". In her view reform of the common agricultural policy "which is necessary" should not be done purely on budget grounds.

Mme Cresson, who yesterday accused the British Government of "a kind of terrorism" in holding up a price settlement until the budget question was settled, said that reform had to take social aspects into account. To make sure that she was not tempted in any way to sell out the interests of French farmers a delegation of French Communist Parliamentarians was following the negotiations. They handed in



Raising eyebrows: Mme Edith Cresson, the French Agriculture Minister, who accused Britain of "a kind of terrorism".

Chirac planned to travel in bombed train coach

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris, March 31

M. Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader, might have been one of the victims of the bomb explosion on the Capote, the Paris-Toulouse express on Monday night.

He was due to take the train that night to attend a meeting the next morning of the conseil general of Toulouse, in Corrèze, where his constituency is located. He did not take the train because a friend had offered to fly him there on a private aircraft early on Tuesday.

When he does take the Capote, he always reserves seats in the coach next to the restaurant car, which was where the bomb went off because it is easier both to work and dine in it.

LAND GRAB DENIED BY GREECE

From Mario Modiano, Athens, March 31

The Greek Government today dismissed Turkish charges that it was seizing land owned by ethnic Turks in western Thrace. A spokesman said: "We are simply evicting squatters from public lands, both Christians and Muslims."

Turkey yesterday threatened reprisals against the dwindling Greek minority of Istanbul. If the Greek authorities seized land belonging to members of the Turkish minority living in North-Eastern Greece.

A Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman, protesting against the Greek Government's refusal to open talks on the problem, said: "Recent events in Thrace demonstrate the negative attitude of the Greek Government towards Turks living in Greece."

a letter to the Council presidency urging it "not to give in to Great Britain's blackmail and to refuse to subordinate agricultural price fixing to settlement of the British budget question".

The two ministers were doing no more than echoing the view-points of their respective leaders at the end of the European summit here the previous day. Then Mrs Margaret Thatcher had said the chances of an agreed agricultural price increase package was "very slight".

British officials preparing for the EEC foreign ministers' meeting in Luxembourg on Saturday are probably puzzled by French tactics. Outright rejection of the compromise formula by President Mitterrand has placed France in isolation from the other nine countries, all of whom are showing signs of being heavily sick of the whole negotiation.

This can only count against France when the negotiations start especially as Britain is pledged to try to negotiate on the basis of the formula rejected by France.

There is no reason, however, for the farm price negotiations to come to a halt. Mr Walker intends to use the three days to fight against Commission proposals for a revaluation of the green pound — which could cut British farmers' incomes — and to resist other Commission ideas for special treatment for the smaller dairy farmers.

He will also be trying to enlist West German, Belgian, Dutch and Danish support to turn down a double figure percentage increase of prices, as urged by Ireland, Greece and Italy. It is remotely possible that a farm price package could be ready by late on Friday, but in those circumstances Britain would refuse final agreement until after the Luxembourg meeting the next day.

Sabre rattling in the South Atlantic Argentine options limited on Falklands

By David Cross

In spite of the growing tensions between Britain and Argentina over the Falkland Islands, the 2,000 or so islanders have so far limited their anti-Argentine protests to a few pro-British slogans.

In the most notable incident an intruder broke into the Argentine airline office in Port Stanley and covered the Argentine flag with a Union Jack. Before leaving he wrote "tit for tat" in toothpaste on one of the desks in a reference to the incident which provoked the current confrontation — the raising of the Argentine flag on the dependency of South Georgia by a group of Argentine scrap merchants.

Another slogan sprayed outside the airline office reads: "UK-OK".

The airline office has become the focus of protests because it is the most obvious symbol of Argentina's claim to sovereignty of the group of islands which have been a British colony for the past 150 years. Under a communications agreement concluded by the British and Argentine governments in 1971, Buenos Aires runs the only regular air service linking the islands with the outside world.

Each week a Fokker Friendship F27 or F28 aircraft, with seats for about 50 passengers on board, runs a weekly or twice weekly service between Port Stanley and Comodoro Rivadavia on the coast of Argentina. The aircraft also bring mail and supplies to supplement the spartan diets of the islanders.

The 1971 agreement, which also covers educational, medical and customs links between the islands and Argentina, laid down arrangements for Argentines and Falkland Islanders travelling to and from the islands. The Argentinean with special travel permits entitling them to free movement both on the mainland and on the islands.

The other main agreement between Britain and Argentina entitles the Argentines to supply petrol and aviation fuel to the Falkland Islands. Under the terms of the 1974 pact, petroleum supplies are brought from the mainland and stored on tanks on the island.

Otherwise in spite of efforts by both the British and Argentine Governments to strengthen economic and political links between the islands and Buenos Aires, ties between the islanders and the Argentine remain tenuous. The occasional Argentine cruise ship calls at Port Stanley during the summer months but leaves after passengers have bought their supply of duty-free whisky, while a few children study at the British school in Cordoba in central Argentina.

With the exception of the few supplies brought in by aircraft, the vast majority of Falkland Islands trade is still maintained by sea. The cargo ship Aes travels to and from Tisbury four times a year carrying wool to Britain and taking supplies of all kinds to keep the Falkland Islands economy ticking over.

Telephone and telex links also bypass Argentina and are transmitted by satellite via the British Cable and Wireless Company.

If the crisis escalates, there is the real possibility that life unpleasant for the islanders — short of a full-scale invasion.

The most Argentinean seems able to do is to stop the mail and prevent passengers from travelling to and from the islands.

In the meantime, according to the daily telex messages which pass between the Falkland Islands and its office in London, the latest confrontation has served to heighten the apprehensions of the islanders towards Britain's defence commitment.

Leading article, page 11.

French TV Bill disappoints

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, March 31

The French Cabinet today approved the draft of the long-expected and controversial television law, which is designed to establish the independence of French radio and television from political pressure, without affecting the basic principle of the state monopoly of those media.

It follows about a dozen attempts by previous governments but it is already clear that the law falls short of the Socialist's claims when they were in Opposition that they would "free television" from state interference.

The Bill amounts only to a broad framework, and marks no clear break with the past, and it leaves unanswered such questions as the autonomy of the different channels, the extent of advertising revenue, and the role of private interests in cable television.

For the past few months the recommendations of a

special government committee, the Motin committee, which inspired the Bill, and a number of inspired leaks about its contents, have been the subject of much controversy and criticism.

The television journalists' unions consider the Bill does not go far enough and is lacking in vision and inspiration. The Opposition argues that it will merely consolidate state interference, expand bureaucratic control and increase costs, without any improvement in creativity and the quality of programmes.

One of the main features of the Bill is the setting up of a high authority of nine members, obviously inspired by the BBC board of governors, appointed for six years and including three of them, including the chairman, are appointed by the President of the Republic, three by the President of the Senate, and



Jungle patrol: A British soldier makes friends with children in a Belize border village.

US recognizes Guatemalan junta

Guatemala City, March 31. — The United States yesterday recognized the military Government which seized power in Guatemala last week, according to the Foreign Ministry.

Mr Frederic Chapin, the United States Ambassador, handed Señor Alfonso Alonso Lima, the Guatemalan Foreign Minister, an official note on behalf of the American Government. It underlined Washington's desire to continue friendly relations and cooperation between the United States and Guatemala, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Guatemala's new rulers have abolished Congress and suspended political activity. They have pleaded both to guarantee human rights and to crush left-wing guerrillas.

President Efraim Rios Montt and the two other

members of the Junta, General Horacio Maldonado and Colonel Francisco Gordillo, also appointed a cabinet yesterday. It contains a mixture of Army officers and civilians.

The President takes the Defence portfolio, while General Maldonado becomes Minister of the Interior, and Colonel Gordillo takes over the Communications Ministry.

Other Ministers are:

Foreign: Alfonso Alonso Lima. Agriculture: Otto Martinez Recinos. Education: Luis Mérida. Finance: Colonel Leonardo Figueroa Villate. Economy: Julio Matheu. Health: Dr Adolfo Castañeda Felice. Labour: Otto Palma Figueroa. Secretary-General of the Junta: Colonel Manuel de Jesús Giron Sánchez.

Informal sources say that Señores Rios Montt, Rendon Sosa, appointed Social Welfare Minister last week, resigned a few days later for undisclosed

reasons. She held the same post briefly in the deposed Government of General Romeo Lucas García. — Reuter.

San Salvador. The coalition of five right-wing parties was assured today of a commanding lead in El Salvador's Constituent Assembly. With only one or two seats still to be decided in the 60-seat assembly, and 95 per cent of the votes counted, the right-wing coalition had won 36 seats, against 24 for President José Napoleón Duarte's Christian Democratic Party.

The dominant partner in the coalition is the National Republican Alliance (Arena). Barring minor modifications affecting the seats still undecided, the line-up of parties is expected to be: Christian Democrat Party 24 seats; Arena 19; National Conciliation Party 14; Demo-

cratic Action 2; Salvadorean People's Party 1; People's Orientation Party 0. The coalition obtained 60 per cent of the votes, while the Christian Democrats remained the largest single party with 40 over cent of the votes. — AFP.

London. Lord Chitnis, the Liberal peer and veteran election observer, said on his return from El Salvador that many people had been anxious to vote in the election there last Sunday because their identity cards were stamped when they voted (Richard Dowden writes).

Lord Chitnis said that it was impossible to judge the percentage turnout, but he thought it was relatively high. About 12.5 per cent of ballot papers were a high proportion, he said — had been spoiled.

Brazil's Third World stance under fire

From Patrick Knight, São Paulo, March 31

Brazil is coming under increasing pressure to modify its foreign policy as Central America moves to the middle of the world political stage.

Brazil's position has been that the fighting in El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala should be solved by the countries concerned, and by political means. For a variety of reasons, Brazil has a different ideology of the United States and, increasingly from Argentina, which is now more assertive under its new president, General Leopoldo Galtieri.

Argentina, which has sent El Salvador free grain, is considering the dispatch of arms and is widely understood to have about 50 anti-guerrilla specialists acting as advisers in the country, as well as a smaller number of undercover men in Nicaragua. It is anxious that Brazil

should give at least some support to its line.

During a recent visit to Brasilia by Señor Nicanor Costa Mendes, the Argentine Foreign Minister, Brazil was asked to take more interest in the political affairs of Bolivia, where precarious military regimes in power since 1980 have been given Argentine political support, as well as \$800m (about £444m) in loans.

The joint communiqué at the end of the visit was non-committal, and Señora Saravia Guereiro, the Brazilian Foreign Minister, has reiterated that Brazil sees the growing divergence between the North and South as of more importance than East-West differences.

The minister has said he regrets the return of Cold War postures, which are detrimental to the interests of Third World countries. This point attracted the retort during Señor Nicanor Costa Mendes' visit that Argentina

by virtue of its per capita income, is not a member of the Third World at all.

The new American Ambassador to Brazil, Mr Anthony Motley, has also said that he cannot understand Brazil's interest in the Third World.

One reason why Brazil has adopted such a non-ideological position in the past decade — being among such regimes as the MPLA in Angola, and withdrawing recognition from the Somoza regime in Nicaragua — while Argentina officers were still supporting it — is that Brazil has the long-term aim of becoming a leader of at least one tendency within the Third World.

Fundamental trade priorities are another reason for Brazil's stance.

Almost half of Brazil's exports now go to the Third World countries in Africa and the rest of Latin

America. Furthermore of the fastest growing exports — manufactures — two-thirds go the Third World.

Argentina, on the other hand, exports only a few commodities to a very few countries, most of them developed.

Recent political events also partly explain the difference. If there was a left-wing assault on the Brazilian state in the early 1970s, it involved only a few dozen guerrillas.

Things have been very different in Argentina, where the death toll in the recent guerrilla years was more than 10,000, and the state came under threat. As a result of the violence with which Argentina destroyed the guerrillas, it became a pariah in the world community, and now its political priority, reiterated during the Foreign Minister's visit here, is unqualified support to United States policy.

Columbia prepared for fourth mission in June

From Piers Akerman, Houston, March 31

The Russians have expressed alarm over the success of the American space shuttle programme, saying it would play a central role in Pentagon plans to use space for military purposes.

Comments on the flight of Columbia said the shuttle programme had now shed its science-oriented clothes. Red Star, the army newspaper, said today: "Plans envisage the use of the spacecraft to launch military communications, weather forecasting and spy satellites fitted with special equipment to pinpoint launches of ballistic missiles while the orbiter itself will carry instrumentation to detect the exhaust flames of rocket engines."

The paper accused the United States of cold-shouldering Soviet proposals at the United Nations to ban the placing of weapons in outer space. It said "imperialist warmongers" were seeking to use scientific and technological progress for aggression.

The Russians have not developed a shuttle in their own space programme, which Western analysts say is many years behind the Americans in this respect.

The space shuttle Columbia will be loaded on to a converted 747 transporter next Wednesday and flown from White Sands missile range in New Mexico to the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida in preparation for its fourth mission now scheduled for late June.

Within hours of landing yesterday the Columbia was hoisted above the dry gypsum runway and prepared for the arrival of the transporter.

Mr Glynn Lunney, manager of the space shuttle programme office at the Johnson Space Centre, said Columbia had lost no more of the heat protection tiles during landing. Shortly after launch it was discovered that about 37 of the silicon tiles had been lost from the skin of the craft.

Mr Lunney said that Columbia was in better shape after its third flight than it was after its second. On its fourth mission Columbia will be carrying a top secret payload for the Department of Defense. It will make its fifth flight in late November or December before being returned to the Edwards Air Force Base in California for modifications and overhaul.

Uganda defeats rebels

From Our Correspondent, Nairobi, March 31

Ugandan government control has been restored in the West Nile district, bordering on Zaire and Sudan, much of which has been held by anti-government rebels for more than a year, the Ugandan authorities said today.

Administrative officials from Arua, the main town in the area, and Major John Ogole, the local army commander, have had meetings

with Zairean officials in the border town of Aru and with Sudanese officials in Kaya, close to the border.

One result of the operation against the rebels has been a new influx of Ugandan refugees into both Zaire and Sudan. Sudanese officials say that 10,000 Ugandans have fled there. They have appealed for international aid to help, to care for them.

OAU talks boycotted in Zimbabwe

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, March 31

Eight African states protesting against the presence of a delegation from the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) boycotted the opening session of a meeting of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) here today.

Representatives of the eight states defied orders by a Zimbabwe Government minister to leave the vicinity of the meeting if they were not attending. They said the gathering was illegal because under the OAU charter there was no quorum.

The dispute over the membership of the SADR — recently agreed by a majority of OAU states in spite of the continuing war in the western Sahara — has now disrupted the last three OAU meetings and threatens to cause a major split in the organization.

The eight nations who boycotted the meetings today, causing the opening to be postponed, were Morocco, Senegal, Tunisia, Somalia, Ivory Coast, Mauritius, Liberia and Zaire.

Mr Kumbirai Kangai, Zimbabwe's Minister of Labour, pleaded in vain with the delegates to enter the hall.

After a postponement Mr Kangai told them that if they were not attending the meeting, on the conference floor of a Salisbury hotel, they should go down to the foyer.

They refused and when an official repeated the order the leader of the Senegal delegation said: "If you stand where I want. If you want you can bring your police to take us out."

The boycotters emphasised that they meant no discourtesy to their Zimbabwean hosts.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Iran says it will not invade Iraq

Hojatolislam Ali Khomeini, the President of Iran, said on Tehran radio yesterday that Iranian forces would not move into Iraq after their offensive in the Gulf war.

The radio, monitored by the BBC in London, quoted the President as saying the Muslims of Iraq were Iran's brothers. But he said: "Our support for them does not mean that we will take our forces inside Iraq territory." He emphasized that Iran had no designs on Iraqi territory. Iraq has disclosed that its forces have withdrawn to new positions after the week-long Iranian offensive.

In Rome, Hojatolislam Hadi Khosrow-Shehi, the Iranian Ambassador to the Vatican, told a press conference that Iran had beaten Iraq. He said Iraqi troops still on Iranian soil would be forced to leave.

Danish wives to keep own names

Copenhagen. — Denmark is introducing legislation allowing married women to retain their maiden names (Christopher Follett writes). Unless they expressly wish it, they will no longer automatically assume their husband's surname on marriage.

Parents will also have the right to decide which of their two surnames their children take.

Cape Town

Johannesburg. — Sir Leonard Allison, the foreign Office official who is Britain's representative on the five-nation Western "contact group" on Namibia, has arrived in Cape Town to have talks with South African officials, and possibly Mr R. Botha, the Foreign Minister. (Michael Hornsby writes).

Dr Chester Crocker, the American Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, is in Luanda, Angola, for a meeting with Mr Namias, the leader of the South West Africa People's Organization whose guerrillas have been fighting for the independence of Namibia for 16 years.

13 sentenced to death in Aden

Aden. — Thirteen Yemenis were sentenced to death here for plotting to sabotage South Yemen's economic and oil installations with "outside" help.

One of the accused said in evidence that he was trained to use time bombs and other explosive devices by Americans in an unnamed foreign country.

New Cabinet for Surinam

Paramaribo. — Surinam's ruling military council named a Cabinet to succeed the civilian administration it ousted in February.

Mr Henri Neyhorst, aged 44, an economist, becomes Prime Minister and Finance Minister. The new Cabinet has been given the task of transforming this South American country of 375,000 people, a former Dutch colony, into a socialist state.

Distant quasar being studied

Canberra. — Australian scientists said they had discovered a quasar (quasi-star) 20,000 million light years away that is probably the most distant object ever observed from earth. They used locally-based radio and optical telescopes in an intensive six-year search.

Aggett friend's TV interview

The girl friend of Dr Neil Aggett (above), the South African trade unionist found dead in his cell at security police headquarters in Johannesburg on February 5, says that a man who knew him could not believe that he took his own life.

Dr Liz Floyd, who was detained and held in solitary confinement at the same time as Dr Aggett, will be seen on Thames Television's TV Eye tonight. She adds: "I think that my own experiences are a risk. I am not surprised that a detainee has died."

Citizenship revoked

Palm Beach, Florida. — A Ukrainian immigrant had his American citizenship revoked after a judge found he had concealed his collaboration with Nazi occupation forces in the Second World War.

CE **THE NEW**
Abbey
Habit

Absurd Man...

Clinging to the Wreckage
By John Mortimer

(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £8.95)

"Drawing out are we today?" glinted the bank manager at the poor young barrister and writer standing before him. "Or are we paying in?"

"Drawing out actually," I admitted. "I mean, we've got to live."

"No 'got to' about it," the manager said sharply. "In fact, many people have to learn that living is quite unnecessary."

It gave me no satisfaction to learn that, the following week, my bank manager had fallen off the platform at Charing Cross and been killed instantly by an oncoming "Northern Line". I have learned that it is very unwise to prophesy other people's deaths.

John Mortimer illustrates the point further with an even better story about a fortune-teller who failed to see farther than the end of September because he himself, not the client, was due to die on October 1. It is strange that he discovered the (tragically) comparative nature of fate comparatively late, for it turns out to be his natural element and this exceptional ally touching and funny memoir is rich in remarkable occasions and disconcerting surprises which further embellish the epigraph from Camus placed at the head of the book: "For the absurd man it is not a matter of explaining and solving but of experiencing and describing. Everything begins with a lucid indifference."

We are invited then to enjoy *Clinging to the Wreckage*, a 200 page account of Mortimer's life up to the 1970s and the first stage performance of *Voyage Round My Father* as a Portrait of the Artist as the Absurd Man, and the final paragraph of all reminds us that the result is only "a part of life, seen from one point of view" (suggesting, I suppose, that there are others to come) and that "these are the things that stayed with me for a while before they left to go into a book."

This, of course, is the most terrific English understatement and nothing to do with lucid indifference in the French manner at all, for behind the thick spectacles and the whimsical Hapsburg chin lies the watchfulness of a writer trying to hear the sound of his own voice, much bewilderment and some pain. Gentleness is one of the virtues he most admires in other men - it is rarely, if ever, applied to a woman in this book - but it is a gentleness that has as little to do with timidity as goodness has with blind faith. The author of *Clinging to the Wreckage* is a good man as Anton Chekhov was a good man.

A whole series of reversions and absurdities, some spectacular and some mild, unfolds around the only child's progress from Charing Cross, Oxford, the Crown Film Unit and years of divorce work in the High Court followed, as he puts it, by a switch to crime. Grandfather Mortimer was a Bristol brewer who took the Pledge. John's father, as we know from *Voyage*, was struck blind in the garden and spent the rest of his life and career pretending the accident had not taken place.

this, his son has now decided, was out of easiness, not courage. A film studio, which John was invited to write after the war, had totally vanished when he reported for work next day; his closest friend at Oxford, who had introduced him to music and the possibility of unforced moral example, was a pacifist who murdered his mistress and poisoned himself in a wood. The memory shakes him still, and it shakes the book, too.

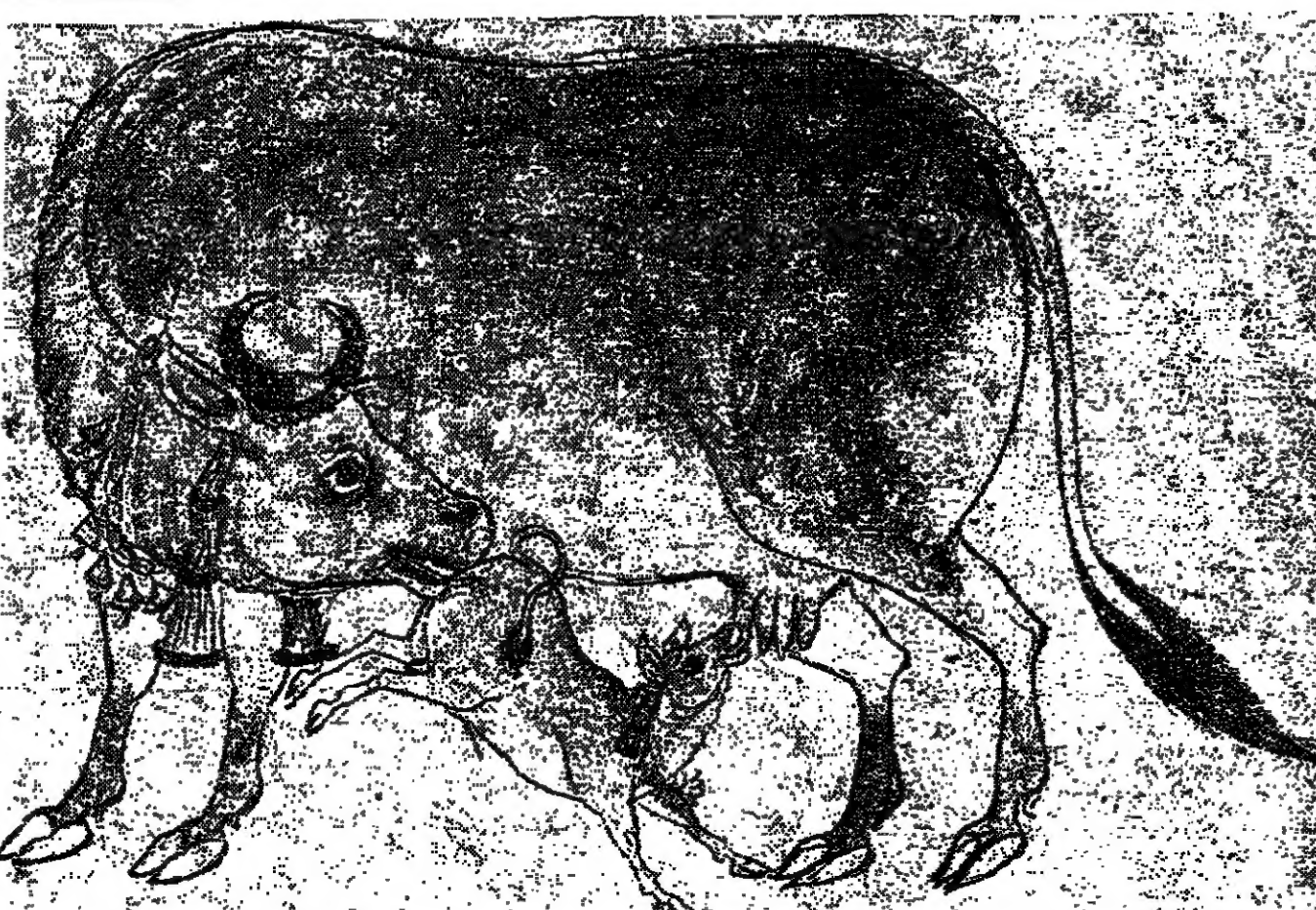
He writes of all these things at exactly the right length and weight, and the whole book is a model of allusive compactness. *Clinging to the Wreckage* contains almost as many lightning flashes as *Dead Souls*, which Uncle Harold who controlled by slide-rule the length of everything in his life from the beds he sold to the clothes he wore and the bacon he ate at breakfast. Mulard, the loyless bodger of Turville who allowed his family one experience of pleasure a year: his ancient cylinder of "The Laughing Friar" at Christmas; the Finchley Road shrinks who watched John's marriage die; Spengel, Anatol de Grunwald, Kenneth Tynan and John Osborne. The sketches are sharp, compassionate and just. My favourite is the General who had not spoken to his wife for years. He addressed savage little notes to the items of furniture her family had supplied: "You are a very vulgar little sideboard. Go back to Whiteley's where you came from."

Marriage and divorce informed his earlier years and helped make him a writer. A kind of agreed truce, or pact, seems to surround his own first, to Penelope Dimont, which lasted 20 years and was fairly famous in its time. Rare glimpses are allowed of Penelope's zestful comic despair, typing away surrounded by tumbling small girls; of John and Penelope



quarrelling on a flamingo hunt in the Camargue; and of The Protesting Mortimers of Suez and CND - "Penelope was better at demonstrations than I, more determined in Downing Street and much more resolute in Grosvenor Square" - but the details are blurred for now. The marriage ends, like so much in the book, in tragical-comical farce, as both parties leave items of expensive dental capping in the same spare rib restaurant of the Rose Garden in Regent's Park. That's his version: I can't wait to read hers.

Michael Ratcliffe



Cow licks, calf sucks, by the Rajasthan school circa 1800 in Devgarh from In The Image Of Man, the Indian perception of the Universe through 2,000 years of painting and sculpture. Weidenfeld, £7.50.

Exploring the subtleties of woman

Letters from Colette
Selected and Translated by Robert Phelps

(Virago, £6.95)

Robert Phelps is a Colette anthologist, an excellent one, whose notations and bibliographic data add a pleasing dimension to *Earthly Paradise*, selections from her work, and *Belles Soirées*, a biographical scrapbook, volumes which have vastly increased Colette's popularity with English readers. The qualities - judicious selectivity and stimulating appetizers - which enhance his previous *Colette* may well reduce the final impact of his *Letters from Colette*, which, wishing to cover all aspects, conveys an impression of scrappiness, selections mostly of a few paragraphs, often one, there failing to allow the full flavour of the Colette wine to satisfy one's palate: this is a sniffing at the aroma. There are five weighty volumes of

Colette's letters three of which are addressed to three separate recipients, and one regrets that this first introduction to Colette the letter-writer should not have been served with a full translation of at least one of these. In particular the letters to her life-long friend, actress Marguerite Moreno, should never be truncated; an autobiographical volume in itself. Colette wrote at great length to Moreno, as she also did to poet Renée Vivien and writer Helene Picard.

However, grumble over (one can never have enough of Colette). Mr Phelps's little book (213 pages) recommends itself since he is Colette's and his chronological-autobiographical treatment covers pretty well, if only in snippets, all the known events and people which she came to know. It is to be congratulated in choosing one fragment (there are many others) which puts paid to the oft repeated myth that

Willy wrote the Claudine books: "when Willy did me the dubious honour of signing my novels, he would occasionally insert into my texts a few words designed to gratify his personal spite. He usually so call this collaboration."

Stressed also is Colette's professional dedication, both as writer and artist-mime: she had a horror of idleness, especially in herself, this clearly inherited from that inspiring mother, Sido, whose hands were never idle. Her generosity to friends and fellow-writers is evident, and her total concern with the world of animals, plants and weather. In Colette's writing one ever comes up against the vivid truisms of her being so utterly French; her remaining in Paris during the second world war is a great Colette touch ("I always spend my winters in Paris"), when the radio talks and magazine articles were her playing man (ousting Sido in that

role) to all French women suffering under the Nazi yoke.

What comes through these letters most is that her letters to women friends are deeper, more revealing, than letters to male friends who were treated as cupids, even if lovers. Women were to be most courted, as she courted her mother to whom she wrote daily (have all these really been destroyed one wonders), and there is that fine sensuality in letters to Moreno (of whom she wrote "she was so little made for dying") Picard and Vivien. Always a touch of flirtatiousness, of confidence entrusted, which is not surprising when one considers how wonderfully the novelist in her explored the subtleties of women. She needed a man about her life, often several, but she required the seduction of women (even metaphorically) to enable her genius to produce its finest blossom.

Kay Dick

Having a bash with Ogden Nash

A Penny Saved is Impossible
By Ogden Nash

(Andre Deutsch, £5.95)

On my only meeting with Ogden Nash I paid him a compliment in a flash, quoting from a poem of his in the *New Yorker* which in my view was a corker. It didn't go well. Still, you can never tell. There are people who can't handle praise, and change the subject or avert the gaze. Once, during the noisy drinks before a Wednesday lunch, I found this with dear old diffident "Eve", ex, but only just, editor of *Punch*. I forget what it was he'd written, but I was sufficiently smitten, as we were standing on the editorial landing, to proffer my shy bouquet. He drew me away by the arm, seeking, as I thought, for a response of

charm, but said, instead, after a temporizing frown, "Why is it in this place you can always tell from up here what soup you're going to get two floors down?"

This isn't to say that things can't go the other way. When I told Perelman (Sid), that I thought some recent *Meistertrick* was the best thing he'd ever written - this was a chap in the Savage Club too - he gave the paper towels a tweak and said, yes, it was one of his favourites too. I suppose there's no reason why such gifted blokes shouldn't enjoy their own jokes, though it came to a choice of responding, I think on the whole I'd rather have E. V. Knox's than Sid's. Nash, I painfully recall, didn't respond at all. Well, there may have been a non-committal reference to the weather. I later discovered that I'd commended him for a piece that wasn't by him at

all but someone else altogether. I still get little rushes of hot flushes at the recollection.

So Ogden's new selection, though his chance of being reached by these observations is now, alas, remote, at least gives me the opportunity to make amends by paying him a compliment or two on something he actually wrote.

And, oh, boy. Is his work a joy? Not just for the happy horsing around with sound, the tightrope suspending of always underplayed line-endings, the spot-on timing in passages which even the aficionado begins to feel are an unconscious time-symphony; the seeming flouting of metre, producing in fact an effect often rhythmically sweeter than, damn it, the different poet achieves through the iambic pentameter.

All those things are fun, but if you think that's the whole of it you haven't begun, because what we have here, let's be clear, is a clinical, yet never cynical, light, illuminating the entire human plight, from the hell of selling houses, to bills, to the unattractive aspect of lady golfers' trousers, let alone the plus when you come right down to it, it's all about us.

Don't try to read it in a day. You'll end up talking his way. Keep the book close, handy for the occasional dose. Gorge it at a gulp, and your mind will be a singing pulp. Believe me, I know, as this lot, I think, only one appears by this time, only seems to show. It's been a right headache to do.

But this time, at any rate, dear Ogden, it's for you.

Basil Boothroyd

Action man

The Years of Upheaval, 1973-1977
By Henry Kissinger

(Michael Joseph, £15.95)

Reviewing the first volume of Henry Kissinger's memoirs for this paper I concluded that he "will be judged well by history. For on the major issue concerning the Soviet Union and the delicate balance of power which determines our survival he is shown to be careful, clear-headed, constrained and consistent". Nothing in the 1200-plus pages of this second volume which covers his period as Secretary of State under President Nixon, gives me grounds for reviewing that judgement.

In a dense and detailed book the gold is contained in those pages covering nearly half the book which deal with the October six-day 1973 Middle East War, the Egyptian-Israeli disengagement ending with the thirty-four day shuttle to conclude a Syrian-Israeli disengagement agreement on 31 May, 1974. The rest of the book is a combination of overdrawn sentiment over Watergate, ingratiating pen portraits of world leaders geared, one senses, more to serialization rights than to history, and too much self-justification over Chile, Cambodia and the disastrous Year of Europe initiative.

But these are minor blemishes on a superb account of the diplomatic effort to resolve the Middle East War. It is for this diplomatic gold that this book deserves to be remembered as does its author: October 1973 was the most dangerous superpower clash since the 1962 Cuban missile crisis. Henry Kissinger dominated the handling of the 1973 crisis at every stage. He did so not just because President Nixon was being destroyed by Watergate but because the man was made for the crisis. He knew the politics of the Middle East extremely well, had an intimate knowledge of two of the key personalities, Prime Minister Golda Meir and President Sadat, and above all had established a close working relationship with the Soviet leader, President Brezhnev, the Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and the Soviet Ambassador in Washington, Anatol Dobrynin. This was done over four and half years as Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, through back channel diplomacy at a level which no-one who had only been Secretary of State under the American system could ever achieve.

Kissinger showed the quality of his judgment on October 6, 1973, the first day of the war when on the crucial issue of arms aid to Israel he realized that the United States could not and should not pretend to be an "honest broker" between the Arabs and Israelis and that if the United States refused aid Israel would have no incentive to heed United States views in the postwar diplomacy. Britain had shown how far it had slipped in its refusal to pay any price for retaining influence in the Middle East when it refused Israel's request for arms and let the United States understand that they should not use United States bases in Britain for the airift or for intelligence collection in the Middle East.

At exactly the right moment Kissinger understood that he had to deal with the Soviet Union having delayed as long as he could, and by flying at request to Moscow on 20 October he showed his realism and readiness to compromise. He also showed that people's actions in government are often more representative than their criticisms out of government. How Henry Kissinger can square his recent advocacy of dropping a strategic dialogue with the Soviet Union over the Polish crisis on the grounds of "linkage" is baffling.

When on 24 October the Soviet Union threatened the imposition of a comprehensive peace Kissinger did not doubt that that was a challenge to the US that had to be faced down, and it was he who guided the President to take the dramatic decision to put US forces on the alert. All of these actions were in a sense predictable, arising out of his sense of geopolitics and of superpower relations.

What was not so easy to predict was his readiness to involve himself in the mechanics of negotiating the two disengagement agreements. Here he has put up with the frustration of endless semantic quibbling between small nations unable to grasp the broad strategic interests which he was trying to defend. It is to Kissinger's credit that he brought onto the world stage all the paraphernalia of demilitarized zones and peacekeeping forces, equipped with the modern technology. This was what overcame the instability of a negotiated ceasefire between countries equipped with modern superpower weapons. The margin between safety and extinction is judged in minutes rather than days.

The Middle East is still bedevilled by theologians of UN resolutions and those for whom a just outcome can wait for decades. Kissinger's triumph to demonstrate that the step-by-step approach could produce results and might eventually be the path to the comprehensive peace we all seek. He was right to separate the Egyptian from the Syrians and to negotiate first with President Sadat. This approach, and the relationship he established with President Sadat was the precursor for Sadat's visit to Jerusalem and to Camp David. Europe, always sceptical of the evolutionary approach to the Middle East is today, as in the past, pressing for rapid resolution. After Sinai is returned to Egypt most of Europe wants to forego the intermediate stage of autonomy and go instead for instant statehood for the West Bank. That is not a negotiable position and for better or for worse there is no alternative for the present than for a United States Secretary of State to force Israel to implement to the letter the full Camp David accords.

That is the message of Henry Kissinger's experience for Al Haig, his successor at the White House and the State Department. We must all hope he will become as purposeful in the pursuit of peace in the Middle East as Henry Kissinger. If not this region will once again drag the whole world to the precipice of war.

David Owen

Fiction

At Freddie's
By Penelope Fitzgerald

(Collins, £6.50)

The Making of the Representative for Planet 3
By Doris Lessing

(Cape, £6.50)

The world of theatre conjures up images of glamour and excitement. The immense dedication required of it and hardships endured by its individuals do not immediately spring to mind. For the children at the Temple Stage School, universally known as Freddie's, the uphill struggle has already begun. Vying fiercely with each other for attention and praise they live, breathe, and speak the theatre.

Penelope Fitzgerald's novel plunges the reader into the midst of the school's precarious existence, threatened by shifting fortunes and the inability to move with the times. The indomitable Freddie presides over the establishment, a legendary figure in her profession.

Hannah, the gentle stage-struck teacher and her hopeless colleague Pierce who tracks adoringly in her wake: the irrefragable child actor Katie and the serious, talented Jonathan - the destinies of all these characters are inextricably bound up in the place.

The original style in which this book is written and satirically unpredictable ending make it compelling and most enjoyable to read. Doris Lessing's fourth book in her series "Canopus in Argos: Archives" is a chilling experience in more ways than one. It concerns a

prosperous and sunny planet which suddenly has to cope with an ice age which encompasses its entire surface.

Hitherto having known only warmth and comfort, the planet's inhabitants find food plentiful, the people of Planet 3 are slowly roused out of their torpor by a Representative formed under the guidance of the Canopean Agents.

As the planet gradually and unreluctantly reverts to an icy, sterile waste its inhabitants struggle to salvage the only remnants they are left with - their actual selves.

Doris Lessing gently suggests that we might look at our own lives and the events that surround them and compare them with evolutions and occurrences in other existences.

A single day spent on a frozen river in the Fens provides the setting for Marina Warner's *The Skating Party* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £6.95). The narrative dips and turns amongst the company as it makes its way downstream.

Michael, the university anthropologist who is hosting the evening with his wife Viola, is infatuated with the fascinating eighteen-year-old, Katy, striving to make her own mark in the art world by unravelling a mystery involving a Renaissance fresco-cy and bounded up in her rebelliousness. Timmo, endeavours to understand the powerful undercurrents she senses between the two.

As the story gathers pace and the party moves towards its abrupt and tragic ending the loves and hopes of its members emerge and mingle, together with disturbing revelations about their pasts. This sensitive and forceful novel exposes the complexities of each person's character and their different needs as each strives for recognition and reassurance.

The Man Who Lived At The Ritz by A E Hotchner (Weidenfeld & Nicolson,

£6.95) is a fascinating and sophisticated thriller about an American living in the Paris hotel when the Germans take it over in 1940. The author's expert tapestry of fact and fiction make it an irresistible read.

Poor Tom by Mary Hobson (Heinemann, £6.95) describes how an unhappily married couple welcome a lame duck into their home. Finally, however, like the cuckoo in the hedge-sparrow's nest, his hosts find that their hospitality is being stretched to the limit. Written with wit and sympathy, this book is highly recommended.

Stories From The Raj compiled by Sara Cowasjee (The Bodley Head, £7.50) contains an astonishing variety of tales from India by a predominantly English team of writers.

Flora Casement

The Dean's
December

By Saul Bellow

(Secker & Warburg, £7.95)

The Dean's December pivots round a university Dean fighting the totalitarian bureaucracy in Belgrade, while his mother-in-law dies, and the legal system in Chicago, while he presides for murder charges.

The novel is split between the free West and the grimly bonded East. The events in Belgrade are etched with a stark and disturbing edge as we meet his wife's family, who are given a grandeur and a dignity against the repression and depression of the communist system. The Chicago story is looser and at times like eavesdropping on people one does not really know. At worst it is tediously repetitive. Bellow has taken too large a cast and is at his best when describing the claustrophobically close relationships in the East. Yet the Dean

himself brings a cohesion if not a tightness to the novel as he eventually discovers his isolation from the world (including his wife). But it has taken the two deaths to show him this.

Candido by Leonardo Sciascia (Corgi, £6.95) is a modern day version of *Candide*. Born in wartime Sicily, Candido becomes a "little monster" causing family break-ups and suicide. Life is seemingly simple for him as he tries to find a true path through life's contradictions and complications. Voltaire's choice between Manichaeism and Optimism is replaced by the alternatives: Communism and the Church, which become embodied in a communist ex-archbishop. Sciascia's canvas is a vast one; painted in a thrifty and light manner, amusing and fable-like. The simplicity and clarity of the genre does not belie a fundamental seriousness as he takes a path towards a belief in the twentieth century in general and Sicily in particular. His "dream, dreamed in Sicily" (the book's subtitle) is eventually found under Voltaire's statue in Paris where he discovers Truth. Candido is born of Candido but there is reborn into it a zest and relevance to today. Sciascia said "I have tried to be quick, to be light. But ours are heavy times." He has certainly lightened the load.

Walter Abish's *How German is it* (Corgi, £6.95) revolves round the questioning mind of Ulrich Hargenau, a novelist. He is shadowed by his father's execution in 1944 for trying to kill Hitler, and by his recently testifying against his own fellow terrorists. His icy relationship with his brother, a successful architect in the New Germany and his brother's friends is the narrative framework, but the novel is more intricately bound by the contemporary philosophies of Brumhold, who also taught Ulrich's girl-friend. For Abish has interspersed detached italicized comments

— (Could everything be different? What could she mean by that question?) — which distance, jolt, and disturb. Brumhold's central questions (what is being said in this contemporary literary device. The correlation between narrative, thought, and style is tightly bound. Abish has cut through the deception and hypocrisy of the characters and Nazi Germany's relationship to Germany present in hard and ruthless way. The novel's title question is given an honest and razor-sharp answer. The book was deservedly awarded the PEN/Faulkner Award for fiction.

Geordie Greig

Science fiction

Helliconia Spring
By Brian Aldiss

(Cape, £6.95)

O, to be in Pannoval now that Aldiss is there. And in Oldorado. All inhuman life is there from the horned, yellow-blooded phagors, for ever the implacable enemies of the man-things, to the monstrous worms which figure in both legend and actuality. And it is the intermingling, for the inhabitants of this first-of-a-trilogy, of what is reality and what is allegory which gives it all its very special flavour.

This is an epic about an epoch, as we follow the career of Yuli, the savage, who quests for his lost father in a land illumined by shawls of light and who, after priesthood, goes on to found a city. From these origins emerge other characters involved in destinies which are at once alien and alike to our own. Mr Aldiss's acknowledgements reveal that experts helped him construct and give credibility to his universe. What, though, they

have not been able to give is his own unique vision which sees myth growing from material facts, a perception "like finding an animal's trail in the snow." Behind the forest of such names as Aoz Roon and Slax Tyl, which world-makers would seem required to bestow to convince us of strangeness, lurks a living core of real poetry. Connoisseurs of such segas who don't read it may well be "high in the harnes". How's that again? Crazy.

Memoirs Of A Space Traveller, by Stanislaw Lem (Secker and Warburg, £6.95). Irony entered the soul of the great Polish fabulist some time ago, never so apparent as in *The Star Diaries* to which this is a sequel. Lem keeps the flag of human morality flying in these tales, even though technology would seem to have scoured the universe of any need for it. Best story: The Washing Machine Tragedy, in which two manufacturers of such domestic implements, Newton and Snodgrass, compete to an ultimate degree which is also an ultimatum.

Three Worlds To Conquer, by Paul Anderson (Sidgwick and Jackson, £6.95). The veteran SF writer works his usual intriguing way with a vividly accelerating story of the fate of Jupiter, Ganymede and the life of a condemned man. Nightfall, by Christopher Fyke (Corgi, £1.50). Oddly obsessive narrative about a weakling boy who becomes a butterfly to wreak vengeance on those he supposes to be his enemies, his body itself finally becoming another kind of chrysalis. Nerve-scrambling stuff, though its wish-fulfilling atmosphere is, paradoxically for its release in flight, too claustrophobic for my taste.

Dragonquest, by Anne McCaffrey (Corgi, £1.75). Fire lizards fly again. Anne McCaffrey's famed series continues, though frankly I find one episode very like

another. When you've broken one queen egg you've broken them all; the yolk is, undoubtedly, on me for not being an addict.

God Emperor Of Dune, by Frank Herbert (New English Library, £2.50). My end is as my beginning; an epic. And Book Four in Frank Herbert's remarkable *Dune* series. Its portrayal of ruler Leto Atreides. Symbiotically linked with the sandworm, is one of the really spectacular SF achievements in creating a different being whose self-sufficiency for his race yet echoes an idealistic aspiration that one hopes is human as well.

Tom Hutchinson

Paperbacks

The Sicilian Vespers
By Steven Runciman (Cambridge, £8.95)

On 30 March seven centuries ago, all the bells in Palermo began to ring for Vespers, the Sicilians, with knives drawn and crying "Death to the French!" poured through the streets cutting down every French man, woman, and child they could find. It is a long time ago, and, as our modern massacres go, it was quite small one. The Sicilian Vespers today suggest little more than one of Verdi's lesser operas. Nevertheless they changed fundamentally the history of Christendom.

More than three centuries later King Henry IV of France hosted to the Spanish ambassador the man that he could do to the Spanish lands in Italy were the King of Spain to try his patience too far. "I will breakfast in Milan," he said, "and I will dine at Rome." "Then," replied the ambassador, "Your Majesty will be in Sicily in time for Vespers." To commemorate the seven hundredth anniversary of the

event that changed the face of Europe, Cambridge today publishes the first paperback edition of Steven Runciman's famous book. It brings back to life the compulsive course of the whole Mediterranean world in the second half of the thirteenth century. It is a book which, like *Who's Who*, is less partial to the Guelfs and Ghibellines, saints and sinners in Dante's *Divine Comedy*. It has a broad canvas, stretching from England to Palestine, and from Constantinople to Tunis.

It is the story of a vast conspiracy, plotted at Barcelona and Byzantium. It is the story of the brave, secretive Sicilian people rising against their foreign oppressors. It is the story of a brilliant prince and his arrogant, arrogant, is the story of that majestic conception of the Middle Ages: a universal papal monarchy - for which relief, much thanks. It is a marvellous story made vivid and intelligible by Runciman's scholarship, narrative power, and sympathetic understanding of the way men behave.

Philip Howard

The Politics of Change by William Rodgers is published by Secker & Warburg, not, as suggested last week, by Long. The next week Quinton on Lord Wheeler, Ratcliffe on Tennison, and Chris Patten on Harold Macmillan.

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Eric Marsden in Johannesburg sums up the controversial tour

The rebel test that failed

South Africa's cricket officials are already quietly planning another "rebel" tour next season, but the tourists will be from more than one country and there will be greater emphasis on one-day games, with perhaps only one full "test" of four or five days. This has not been publicly stated but is the inference from reactions by senior administrators to the tour by Graham Gooch's "South African Breweries Eleven," which ended in anticlimax here on Monday.

Should the International Cricket Conference relent and implement its commissioners' proposal that a mixed international team should be sent to South Africa, all other plans would be gladly scrapped. But there is scant chance of this. Mr Joe Parnes, chairman of the South African Cricket Union, who is sending a report on the "positive results" of the English "eleven" to the Lords, will not speculate on future events except to repeat that SACU is known to be "innovative, inventive and resourceful." He said Gooch and his men had done much to foster the game in South Africa.

Mr Ahmed Mangera, president of the Transvaal Cricket Board, which is affiliated to the South African Council of Sport and rejects normal sport until there is a "normal society," claims that dwindling attendances proved that people were losing interest in such "gimmicks" and that if the rumoured tour including Australian Test stars becomes a reality the result would be the same.

The tour undoubtedly failed to pay its way, but the breweries had agreed in advance to foot the bill. Grounds were crowded for the three one-day matches, all won by South Africa, but were less than half-full for the four-day "Tests," two of which were tame draws. Debate is raging over whether this was due to the exaggerated importance



Amiss and Underwood meet young South African fans in Johannesburg

given them by radio and television: there was a ball-by-ball commentary on the six "internationals" and day-long television at first, until it became obvious that attendances were being affected.

Some say that the saturation coverage helped revive flagging interest in cricket, especially among schoolboys, and point out that gates did not improve on Sundays when Calvinist authority ruled out any coverage. But Sunday is traditionally reserved for barbecues and garden frolics, and a surprising number of people go to church.

Most likely the public sensed that the true Test atmosphere was missing, as it was with the Kerry Packer series.

On the field the tour at first boosted and then shat-

tered South African illusions that after 12 years of isolation they are still world-beaters and the survivors of their 1970 team are as good as ever. In the first one-day match, which provided the best cricket of the month, the South Africans passed the 240 set them for the loss of three wickets and with overs in hand, with Barry Richards and Graeme Pollock sharing batting honours with new boy Jimmy Cook, and Mike Procter winning the bowling prize. Richards and Pollock were again in mastery form in the first four-day "Test," which South Africa won comfortably.

But as the pressure increased, with only a day's rest between games, they were shown to be ordinary mortals. Richards, though stylish as ever, is no longer a relentless destroyer of open-

ing attacks. Pollock, revered here as "the Prince of Batsmen" or "The Great Man," proved vulnerable outside the off stump in his last three innings. Procter was unable to bowl in the big games and sadly gave up the captaincy because of his knee injury. Clive Rice could not bowl because of neck trouble.

Cook and Peter Kirsten were the most consistent South African batsmen and Vincent van der Bijl emerged as the team's only world-class bowler. The guest batsman, the Englishman, van der Bijl, who holds nearly every South African bowling record, took 18 wickets in the three major games.

The South Africans have realized that they have to rebuild and cannot afford to lose any more players such as Kepler Wessels, now an Australian, and Allan Lamb,

who hopes to play for England this year. As Batters, the 1970 Springbok captain who is convener of the selectors, is urging that young cricketers should be offered full-time professional contracts to stop the drain.

Before the tour Graham Gooch was little known here (though he played club cricket in the Cape five years ago), and regarded as Boycott's junior partner. He hit two centuries and his buccant style electrified crowds.

Amiss's classical correctness aroused nostalgia but Boycott was a disappointment. So was Bob Woolmer until his 100 on the final day. The best bowler was the uncapped Les Taylor, who partnered Van der Bijl for Natal this season. The others were steady but lacked penetration, and John Emburey's early loss through injury was a severe blow.

The tourists improved as the series went on and were unlucky not to have won the last two matches. Despite a lack of back-up organization and a schedule which left only one day between games, usually for travelling, they took the strain better than the South Africans, who normally play only eight four-day matches over five months, interspersed with one-day knock-out contests.

If the three-year ban is not lifted, Gooch and most of the others will be back here next season.

There is sadness that the bitterness the tour has aroused has led to the withdrawal of invitations to Procter, Pollock and Eddie Barlow to play at the Oval for the Rest of the World against "Old England" for the Ken Barrington Memorial Fund.

It is apparently feared they might embarrass Sir Ian Botham and the other West Indians. But these three have been consistent campaigners against Apartheid in sport, especially Barlow, who has stood for parliament on an anti-Apartheid platform.

A new national service: the way to find a million jobs

by Ian Bradley

Recent opinion polls suggest that a nationwide community service scheme for young people commands the support of a clear majority of the population. Nearly all the letters received and published by *The Times* followed a leading article entitled "Your Country Needs You" on February 27 have also been favourable. Serious doubts persist, however, about how such a scheme could be implemented. Can enough jobs be found in the community for young people to do? How would such a scheme be organized and what would it cost? In short, is it really a practical proposition rather than an idealistic dream?

There has been a surprising amount of detailed research over the last ten years into the practicalities of launching and running a national scheme in which all school-leavers would spend a period of a year or so in work of benefit to the community. Those involved in this research have in general been optimistic about the chances of successfully introducing into this country something which is already going on in several other European nations where a period of social service is permitted and encouraged as an alternative to military service.

In West Germany, for example, where there is compulsory national service for 18-year-olds, only 65 per cent of those eligible actually serve in the armed forces. About 30,000 a year opt for a 16-month period of civilian service which involves working in hospitals, among the elderly and in conservation. Other smaller groups are involved in voluntary service overseas and in the technical aid service which provides swift assistance in major disasters and emergencies. These services are organized by the federal government.

Finding jobs to be done is probably the least difficult task in setting up a national community service scheme. A report entitled *Half a Million Pairs of Hands*, commissioned in 1970 by Community Service Volunteers, the organization which already places over 2,000 young people a year in community service projects, demonstrated that it would be feasible to generate 500,000 opportunities in hospitals, schools, museums and in the care of the elderly and the handicapped.

A more recent and more detailed study by Enrico Colombatto of the London School of Economics (*Nationwide Social Service: A Proposal for the 1980s*) goes much further and suggests that between 847,000 and 1,768,000 jobs could be found, easily providing opportunities for all the 800,000 or so young people who leave school every year.

One of the main areas which Colombatto identified as providing job opportunities was in the care of the growing number of old people. Age Concern, the largest organization dealing with the elderly in Britain, has said that it could create as many as 500,000 full-time placements for young people under a nationwide community service scheme. Their jobs would range from helping with the Meals-on-Wheels service to visiting, gardening and shopping.

Other areas which could provide a significant number of opportunities are personal social services and education. It has been suggested, for example, that one or more young people could be attached to every nursery, primary and special school teacher to help in the

classroom. There is also obviously enormous scope for jobs in the general field of conservation and environmental improvement, both in rural areas and in the inner cities, where large numbers of young people could be used to rehabilitate derelict buildings and create playgrounds and parks.

Much of the organization and administration of a national community service scheme could be left in the hands of local agencies, both statutory and voluntary. It would seem sensible, for example, for local social services and education departments to supervise placements in the institutions and schools which they run. The voluntary help organisers now attached to most hospitals would be well placed to organize those working in the health service.

Environmental projects could be run by voluntary agencies like the National Trust and the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, which has estimated that, with adequate funding, it could create work amounting to 100,000 man months each year. Jobs in the field of inner-city rehabilitation could be organized by local authorities and by voluntary and community groups.

Such central direction and management of a nationwide community service scheme as was needed could be provided by a national agency, perhaps the existing Manpower Services Commission (MSC) which is already increasingly

involved in the community service field, particularly after the Chancellor of the Exchequer's announcement in the Budget of new initiatives to involve the long-term unemployed in socially useful work.

An added advantage of involving the MSC in the management of the scheme is that it would provide close integration with existing provision for young people in terms of further education and training. Critics of the idea of a year of national social service are often worried that it would be seen as an alternative to the Government's recently announced training initiative and as a substitute for job preparation and learning skills.

Rather, a period of community service should be complementary and additional to other forms of preparation for adult life. Its protagonists would also argue that, in an emerging post-industrial society which is unlikely ever again to provide "work" for all in the conventional sense of that term, it could provide much more relevant to young people's needs than further education or training for specific jobs.

The cost of the scheme obviously depends very much

on what those taking part in it would be paid. On the basis of a weekly allowance of £13 with food and lodging, where necessary, provided free, Colombatto calculates that the total cost per placement per year would be £1,288.72. Using a slightly different method of calculation, and assuming a weekly allowance of £15, Youth Call, a pressure group advocating the adoption of a nationwide community service scheme, has suggested that the cost of placing 100,000 young people for a nine-month period would be just under £100m.

By comparison, it is worth noting that the cost to the state of each unemployed young person is over £3,000 a year and that last year the MSC's Youth Opportunities Programme placed 360,000 in work experience and community projects of between four and six months at a total cost of £215m.

Almost certainly the most difficult obstacle to be overcome in setting up a nationwide community service scheme would be the opposition of the trade unions. At a time of high unemployment and cutbacks in public spending it is not surprising that public sector unions in particular might regard such a scheme, particularly if introduced by the present Government, as a way of getting labour on the cheap.

It is a great pity that the argument in favour of nationwide community service has been put forward at a time of very high unemployment. The justification for the one is not the existence of the other. However appealing it may be to politicians, the temporary removal of large numbers of young people from the labour market, and therefore from the unemployment statistics, would be essentially only a by-product of national community service and not its main purpose or benefit.

In fact, many long-term jobs would be created as a direct result of the introduction of such a scheme. Supervisors and managers would be needed, including skilled builders and craftsmen, to lead the teams of young people working on inner-city rehabilitation. That particular area of work would also give a much-needed boost to the construction industry.

Ultimately, it is imagination and will that are required to turn the idea of national community service into a reality. One of the first actions of Franklin Roosevelt when he became President of the USA in 1933 in the midst of the worst depression this century was to set up the Civilian Conservation Corps. The corps grew from over a quarter of a million in three months, was responsible, among many other things, for planting two billion trees covering 21 million acres, more than half the area now under forest in the United States. Nearly 40 million acres of farmland were saved from erosion. Surely it is not beyond the resources of Great Britain 50 years later to put the energy and enthusiasm of our young people to work to save our inner cities from decay and death?

The author is a member of the Youth Call working party.

Where the young would work

In care of the elderly	250,000
In hospitals & health care	35,000
In education	250,000
In environmental conservation	52,000
In conservation in urban areas	203,000
Skills development	37,100
Total jobs	847,100

Source: minimum figures in Enrico Colombatto's LSE discussion paper.

Who pays for the blues in the night?

To judge from his speech in the law and order debate last Thursday, Mr Roy Hattersley either did not read or forgot the following astonishing article (*March 18*) explaining the rationale case for the publication by the Metropolitan Police of violent crime statistics showing the proportions of black and white offenders, or he failed to be convinced by its impeccable logic.

At all events, there he was again, fatalistically stressing (though of course not condoning) unemployment as a cause of this kind of crime in the following amazing sentence:

"If I were a young black teenager living in a decaying central area, anticipating unemployment and watching the reduction in the social services and the humiliations heaped upon me by the Government's British Nationality Act, 1981, and other matters, I would be tempted in those ways."

In which ways precisely, we may ask. Would Mr Hattersley in any circumstances be tempted, say, to strike down an old lady, kick her in the head, break a few bones and take her virtually empty purse? I like to think not. What he ignores is the extent to which this kind of mugging is itself racist. Politicians rightly repeat that racial violence must not be tolerated and what they usually have in mind is the despicable violence by thugs and skinheads against coloured people, usually peaceful Asians.

They are, however, usually silent about the racial element in the violent assault, with theft, of blacks on whites.

Nevertheless, it is part of the stock-in-trade of Mr Hattersley and the like-

minded that collecting racial statistics must be wrong. How, then, do they react to the following astonishing story?

A few weeks ago, Lambeth Council submitted to the Greater London Council, as the entertainment licensing authority, an application for parties to be held in the Town Hall's Assembly Hall until 4 am. The object was to reduce the number of noisy parties held by blacks elsewhere in the borough which was causing distress, particularly to white people.

The application was not opposed by the police because they felt it unwise to do so, post-Scarman, on political grounds. However, the application was resisted by the matron and inmates of an old people's home hard by the Town Hall. They accepted as inevitable noisy parties until midnight, but the prospect that these could continue until 4 am was enough to drive to despair people who already felt unsafe and forgotten.

Nevertheless, the licensing panel decided, on a balance of considerations, to allow parties until 4 am on two nights a week, though not every night as requested.

It was, in itself, an interesting enough decision but far more significant is a report headed "Noise Statistics and the Racial Dimension" which was submitted in connection with the case by the Lambeth Director of Environmental Health and Consumer Services in consultation with the Principal Race Relations Adviser.

The report began by stating the Council's policy of dealing quickly with noise complaints which, after investigation, can be met by summonses under the Con-

trol of Pollution Act, 1974.

"In recent years the number of complaints of unacceptable noise levels has risen sharply."

On June 19, 1980, the Health and Consumer Services Committee had therefore received a report entitled "Race Relations Positive Action Programme in Health and Consumer Services" which stated that "noise nuisance was a potential cause for conflict with a clear racial dimension which could not be overlooked. This was particularly true of 'blues' parties which had a commercial element, were well organized and moved from place to place to avoid prosecution."

Subsequently, "racial data was (sic) gathered for a four-month period in relation to noise complainants during the period 22.10.1980 to 31.10.1981. There was a high number of unknowns. 'What is significant, however, is the continuing trend of high numbers of white complainants and even higher number of black offenders.'"

The figures compiled for Lambeth are: Offenders: Black 216, White 57, Black/White 16, Not Known 657. Complainants: Black 22, White 200, Black/White 8, Not Known 716.

Among the reasons suggested for these statistics are that "some black people have cultural attitudes to noise and 'authority' which makes (sic) them more tolerant of and less likely to complain about noise than white people", and that some in the black community have "an unmet need for sound-insulated facilities", in the absence of which "social activities will be curtailed by statutory enforcement."

The report suggests as possible explanations of these points the fact that whereas white-run parties often celebrate such family occasions as weddings and birthdays, black parties are

often large community affairs.

"It is generally held that the enjoyment of loud low beat music is a cultural one within the black community... Some of the most persistent noise nuisances referred to the Weekend Emergency Service comes from the blues party category."

The report then states that though the statistics may be accounted for by the fact that the enjoyment and tolerance of noise are cultural, "the racial dimension is equally important."

"If the problem of noise is not tackled consistently then a racial dimension to noise in terms of black/white discord could develop. This racial dimension to some extent exists only statistically, but when combined with recent social unrest it could escalate."

"The provision of adequately sound-insulated accommodation so sited as to give least nuisance from party-leavers with all-night use with minimum restrictions should be considered as a method of tackling this problem."

"I leave everyone to reach his own conclusions on this extraordinary report, contenting myself with these questions: Who pays? What proportion of a borough's population must be black for it to qualify for sound-insulated halls out of the public purse? What, if despite such premises, noise from unsolicited private premises persisted?"

Most important of all, if it is all right for Labour Lambeth Council to collect, analyse and gloss noise nuisance statistics on a racial basis, why may the police not do the same for mugging?

THE TIMES DIARY



The Army's magazine *Soldier* has surprised many with its ready acceptance of the decentralization of seven British Regiments.

Phlegmatically the current issue reports that famous names are to be changed with immediate effect, to please our Continental allies.

Thus in the name of metrication the 9th/12th Royal Lancers (Prince of Wales's) are henceforward referred to as the 0.75 Royal

Lancers. The 13th/18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own) are calculated to become the 0.72 recurring Royal Hussars, and the 16th/5th Queen's Royal Lancers emerge as the 3.2 Royal Lancers.

Such a surrender to the Continental is bound to cause a ruffle in the country's military pride but, we are assured, it has the wholehearted approval of Nato's International Army Personnel Register, which is supposed to think the new arrangements much more businesslike.

Boilerhouse announces a series of exhibitions, beginning with sanitary ware from the Royal Collection. Appropriately, the show is called *Royal Flush*.

Others advertised for the future include *Closet Queen* which reveals Queen Victoria's sketches, designs and diaries concerning the WC; and *The Perfumed Garden*, devoted to the rustic renaissance of the out-house. The one I suspect I should find most amusing is *Shut that Door!*—an exposure of Sweden's public experiment with open-plan lavatories.

Yet I am bound to ask—as I expect the museum administrators will when they complete their cogitations this morning and realize what day it is—should taxpayers' money be flushed down the wastepipe so generously on these weird excursions?

Forster's fling

The *Gay News* Literary Supplement, an unexpected minefield of literary revelation, announces this morning the discovery of a considerable cache of manuscripts during extensive renovation work in E. M. Forster's former rooms at King's College, Cambridge. They are said to include a substantial autobiographical fragment in which Forster documents and analyses a short-lived, intensely passionate and hitherto unsuspected love affair he had with Virginia Woolf in 1923.

Gay News's literary editor, Alison Hennegan, promises that a short story included in the haul will be published in her next issue, and I shall be disappointed not to read it. Provisionally entitled *The Story of a Real*, Hennegan says it is a

roman à clef in which Forster speculates with malicious glee on the anxiety which would spread through the literary community if their unlikely relationship were discovered.

Trunk roads?

Friends of the Earth, Britain's leading conservationists, have sent a message of congratulation to David Howell, the Transport Minister, congratulating him on his success with the greening of cities. The "disintegration" of Britain's roads is proceeding so well, the organization says, that popular garden flowers and bushes are establishing themselves in the remains of the tarmac and burrowing animals are colonizing the potholes.

This morning FOE will take reporters and photographers on a guided tour of a nature reserve established in Hopkins Street in the middle of Soho. The pothole there, they promise, is big enough already to accommodate primroses, rabbits, moles and badgers, and they are thinking of planting a few trees.

Take at meal time

Caterer and Hotelkeeper draws my attention to the arrival in Britain of "the biggest breakthrough in food service since the invention of fire." It is the pill meal, launched by a chain called Meal Appeal which, the magazine says, has perfected a vast range of meals in lozenge form.

The company's founder and



And, of course, there'll have to be a special clause excluding the House of Commons...

president, Patrick K. Hudvincz, is quoted as saying that when he hit upon the idea "the benefits flashed up in my mind like neon dollar signs—no dish-washing, no gristle and none of that horrible mess all over the plate after you've finished the meal!"

Little is known about the Meal Appeal technology, but it is claimed that the structure of each pill is defined by a special computer programme, so that taste and texture sensations are released in the correct sequence.

Estimates are that a full five-course Meal Appeal Christmas dinner complex with turkey, pudding and liqueur lozenges can be consumed in six and a half minutes, or three and a half if

diners prefer to crunch their tablets.

Holography is used to configure up a more complete picture of the meal, and robots provide service. The listed attractions—salads, including an authentic Peruvian night out with *cuisine minceur* option.

Pinka pinta

A confidential report of the officers of Burntwood town council has been sent to me. It reveals plans to make the schools in Burntwood, in the Midlands, testing ground for coloured milk at the behest of the EEC.

The purpose of the experiment would be to test children's reactions. The colours suggested are pink, peach, lemon, lime, blue, lavender and coffee, but normal uncoloured milk will also be available on selected days.

Because of stringent EEC regulations about food additives, the report says it will be necessary to provide local farmers with fodder impregnated with concentrated food colouring, so that the milk is coloured naturally.

The report envisages that the cattle feed will be impregnated with primary colours, and the pastel shades required for the children's milk produced by mixing the feed.

In view of the date, PHS offers its personal guarantee that every statement in this Diary is true, but do be careful today about what you believe from other sources.

Eisenstein: the film they can never show

Michell Raper unfolds a fascinating story in his Radio 4 programme *A Missing Masterpiece?* this morning. It explains how G. K. Chesterton, George Bernard Shaw and take that, Henry James volunteered as extras for a reenactment of the Odessa steps sequence for Sergei Eisenstein's *Battleship Potemkin*.

It happened, says Raper, during Eisenstein's visit to London en route to Hollywood in the 1930s. The Russian genius was lionized on the London cocktail circuit, but when complimented on the Odessa steps sequence he dismissed it as a "kropnik"—a botched job.

Thus the idea was conceived of shooting the sequence again at a suitable London locale: the steps of the Albert Memorial. The presence of so many celebrities when filming began is attributed to Leiden-Smith, a shady figure on the fringes of the artistic world who subsequently edited some of the London shots into one print of *Potemkin* which may, for all anyone knows, still be doing the round of the film clubs.

It is recorded that Shaw wore his usual knickerbockers for his headlong rush up the steps, and that Chesterton, wearing pince-nez, had the misfortune to slip on a dog dropping, thus providing a most life-like performance as a

falling martyr. Thereafter those who had worked with the Russian director in London would greet each other with a rapid shuffle of the feet and the murmured Russian words: "Aprelskiy dukak."

Pet hates

Interpet, the Dorking company which has been chosen for the British Pet Industry Association's first award for outstanding contributions to the pet industry, has appropriately chosen this moment to announce an addition to its product range.

Paratox combats parasitic and protozoan infections such as flukes, anchor worms, fish lice, white spot, leeches and hydra. It does not affect pH, will not interrupt nitrification and is generally safe for use in the home aquarium. The company does warn, though, that the product is hard on plants and invertebrates and should be used with caution in the presence of marine sharks, lionfish, and freshwater piranhas.

Aylesbury Vale district council's bulletin of planning applications received last week lists one for Aston Clinton: a private effluent pipeline at Dropshot Farm.

Out of the closet

Posters in the Victoria & Albert Museum inform me of a crackpot scheme at the Boilerhouse Project. To celebrate the centenary of the water closet, the

WE D

The South seems to be a Falkland may be that planned for pose by the ment. If government have played hands. It is probably g... But it is not able.

The action salvage merr British auth ken (whose had been to Embassy in they would landing on and then Argentine f... be interpreted provocation. necessarily Argentina, a or colonise S

The officia was confined some equip salvage party time naval ve itself an ac Only when i that Britain h Endurance f Argentine f... announce the vessel, the B

Airlines su From Mr K E Sir, You gave (March 24) to "Passengers g BA" from res the Internatio Berr Associatio May I suggest less—40,000 and 7,000 repl rate is 17.5 replies are li unrepresentati and your co yours faithfully K. E. MANN, Overseas Mark 77 George Street Portman Squar



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234.

SPREADING GERMANY'S WINGS

There are two main threats to western Europe. One is posed by the vast array of Soviet weaponry looming over its eastern frontiers. The other is the threat of social instability provoked by recession and unemployment, and perhaps aggravated by opposition to nuclear weapons. The two threats are linked in so far as there is no point in trying to defend ourselves against the Russians if we cannot sustain political and economic structures that are worth defending and capable of producing the wealth to pay for defence.

This week's European summit sensibly addressed itself to both threats but fell some way short of generating the momentum necessary to deal with them. Neither its words on unemployment (now roughly ten million) nor its complaints about high interest rates (no mention of Mr Reagan as the culprit) and still less its rather tentative talk of "further consultation" with Washington, did justice to the need for a much more coherent and forceful European contribution to the joint problems of the alliance.

If this is to develop in time for the Versailles summit meeting in June, a lot of responsibility is going to fall on West Germany. It is the European country most exposed to the military threat and most worried by the effects of economic stress on its society. This worry often seems exaggerated to its neighbours, who see a democracy in pretty good working order and an economy capable of dealing with a fair amount of trouble, but the fact that the Germans are starting to feel uneasy and insecure is, whether justified or not, a political reality that the alliance must take into account.

The first thing it needs to do is to listen more closely to what Herr Genscher, the Foreign Minister, has been saying recently about the need for Europe to put aside bickering and develop a stronger voice on major political issues. The next thing is to look more closely at the contribution which West Germany can make to the alliance. It is still understandably inhibited by its past — or by the lingering suspicion of its neighbours — from reaching too obviously for the leadership of Europe, but that is not the main issue or the best way of looking at the problem.

The stress which West Germany now feels has been made worse by pressure from Washington and Paris to choose between its eastern and western relations: Washington has wanted West Germany to line up with more confrontational and even

punitive policies towards the Warsaw Pact. The French have begun to plague themselves with worries that West Germany could slide into its own version of Gaullism, making private arrangements with Moscow to the detriment of the alliance. This is one of the reasons why they are pressing for more European cooperation on defence. In the sixties and seventies they could flaunt their independence and make their own advances to Moscow because they felt securely protected behind West Germany. Now they feel less sure of their ally.

These fears are exaggerated, but it is true that the West Germans have been made restive by the fact that the alliance is no longer united behind the concept of détente which they have faithfully pursued for more than a decade — that is, military balance combined with a widening of political, commercial, cultural and personal contacts. As they frequently point out, it is not they who have changed but the Americans.

This is a problem not just for West Germany but for the alliance since West Germany is the strongest and the most vulnerable power in Europe, and a vital cornerstone of the alliance. It also happens to exemplify the European dilemma of being wholly dependent for its security on the United States without having sufficient influence over American decisions. It is not drifting into neutralism, but it could drift into still greater disaffection with the alliance if its own interests are insufficiently respected, or seen as in conflict with those of its allies.

The immediate key to the problem is to see that the conflict is in fact illusory. West Germany's eastern policies are not a liability but an asset to the alliance. They have opened up eastern Europe to western influence, contributed to an amelioration of conditions in eastern Europe, and given the states of eastern Europe a stake in détente which the Russians cannot wholly ignore. During this period, too, the ideological appeal of the Soviet Union to western opinion has sunk to its lowest ebb since 1917. All this has contributed significantly to the security of western Europe and has not led to any diminution of the West German defence effort, which continued to increase even when American defence spending was dropping.

It would help nobody, except possibly the Russians, if all this work were abandoned and the iron curtain allowed to descend again across cen-

tral Europe. Yet this difficult balance of military preparedness with political openness is difficult for some members of the present American administration to comprehend. They see it as weakening their global confrontation with the Soviet Union. In fact it does nothing of the sort except in the difficult area of punitive sanctions. It has been difficult for the West Germans to find ways of registering disapproval of Soviet actions in Afghanistan and Poland, for instance, without putting at risk some of the gains of détente, though they were among the few to keep their athletes away from the Moscow Olympics.

This is a dilemma which cannot be wholly resolved. It can, however, be ameliorated. Firstly, the alliance must accept that West Germany's eastern relations are not only a vital German interest but also an alliance interest. Any attempt to force West Germany to sever them would be doomed to failure and damaging to the alliance. This will remain true even if there is a change of German government in West Germany. The Christian Democrats make great play with promises of greater devotion to the alliance but in power they would find German interests unchanged. Therefore the alliance should come to accept that when sanctions are called for the West German contribution to them will be less than that of some other states. This is a reasonable price to pay for larger dividends that the alliance gains from German policies. It is also a reinsurance against German disaffection with the alliance.

To compensate, however, the West Germans need to widen their view and show more understanding for America's global problems. If they are to represent the interests of the alliance in Europe they must recognize that the United States is representing their interests and defending their security around the globe. Among other things they should be ready to earmark troops for operations outside the NATO area. This would impress American opinion and buy much needed influence over the way in which the force is used. They have constitutional problems here (German forces are bound to a defensive role) but these could be overcome. They also have political problems which are more intractable. But this is the sort of direction in which the West Germans should be looking if they are to win wholehearted alliance support for their valuable role in Europe.

WE DON'T HAVE THE SHIPS BUT BY JINGO...

The South Georgia incident seems to have developed into a Falkland Islands crisis. It may be that the incident was planned for that precise purpose by the Argentine government. If so, the British government could be said to have played into Argentina's hands. If not, the crisis is probably quite unnecessary. But it is not yet unmanageable.

The action of the Argentine salvage men, in ignoring the British authorities at Grytviken (whose permission they had been told by the British Embassy in Buenos Aires they would require for a landing on South Georgia) and then in raising the Argentine flag, could hardly be interpreted as other than a provocation. But it did not necessarily have to be interpreted as an attempt by Argentina, as a state, to seize or colonise South Georgia.

The official Argentine role was confined to the landing of some equipment for the salvage party from an Argentine naval vessel — hardly in itself an act of aggression. Only when it became known that Britain had diverted HMS Endurance to the area did the Argentine foreign minister announce that another naval vessel, the Bahia Paraiso, had

been sent there and was standing by to protect Argentine citizens.

With hindsight it can be asked whether the British government was wise to dramatise the incident by diverting the Endurance in this way, and whether it would not have been more statesmanlike simply to ignore the rather insignificant infringement of British sovereignty represented by twelve civilians and one flag on a remote and uninhabited stretch of coastline. Their presence was hardly likely to become permanent, and if they left their flag behind them a party could always have been sent from Grytviken to replace it with the Union Jack. Such a venture would perhaps provide a welcome relief from what one imagines as the somewhat monotonous way of life of the British Antarctic Survey station.

But matters have gone beyond that point now. Argentina's rulers, beset with economic and political difficulties at home, have leapt at the chance to stage an external confrontation on an issue which unites the Argentine population — at least in the sense that there seems to be only one Argentine opinion

about the rightful sovereignty of the "Malvinas", though there are, no doubt, more than one about the degree of priority the issue deserves, and indeed the proper tactics for handling it. In Britain too, and especially on the Conservative back benches, a somewhat jingoistic note is being struck. The Government cannot afford to appear to be backing down in face of a threat to British sovereignty in the Falkland Islands; and indeed it would be wrong to give Argentina the impression that any sudden *Anschluss* would go unopposed.

The Government is rightly insisting publicly on its desire for a solution by diplomatic means, while strengthening its diplomatic position by giving semi-private hints that British warships, even a nuclear-powered submarine, are on their way. It is hardly likely that the navy could spare such a vessel for permanent garrison duty in the South Atlantic, while to proclaim publicly that it was being sent would be an escalation of the crisis and make it more difficult for the Argentines to back down without losing face. But it makes very good sense to give them the idea that it is somewhere around, and could be used if they overplay their hand.

and given the practice of bringing in staff from other establishments, this is seldom the case during major disturbances.

My association recommends that all prison staff, uniformed and civilian, should routinely wear a badge identifying their name and rank. This would protect the interests of staff and prisoners and enhance the policy of accountability of the service emphasized by successive Home Secretaries.

Yours faithfully,
A. L. MACFARLANE, Chairman,
Association of Members of
Bodies of Visitors,
18/19 Monmouth Place,
Bath,
Avon
March 24.

Airlines survey

From Mr K. E. Mann
Sir, You gave considerable space (March 24) to a report headed "Passengers give thumbs down to BA" from results of a survey by the International Airline Passenger Association.

May I suggest that the results of this survey are almost worthless — 40,000 of the association's 100,000 members were contacted and 7,000 replied. This response rate is 17.5 per cent and the replies are likely to be very unrepresentative and misleading and your conclusions totally erroneous.
Yours faithfully,
K. E. MANN,
Overseas Market Facts,
77 George Street,
Portman Square, W1.

Identity in question

From Mr A. L. Macfarlane
Sir, The difficulty of identifying participants lies at the centre of the controversy over the recent disturbance at Wormwood Scrubs Prison (report February 25). As far as we are aware no change of procedure has been instituted to overcome similar difficulties in the future.

Uniformed prison staff, unlike police officers, wear no identifying marks other than those signifying rank. It is misleading to suggest, therefore, that the difficulties arising out of the incident at Wormwood Scrubs resulted from the use of riot equipment. Prison staff are not ordinarily identifiable unless personally known to the prisoner.

Political control and the police

From Mrs M. B. Simey
Sir, Mr Mottram's letter (March 27) serves a useful purpose in ensuring that the dominant party has an overall majority originated with the local Labour group. In fact, we simply followed a practice which is, contrary to Mr Mottram's belief, common among the country Police authorities. In fact, little choice in the matter. If the leading party is to exercise its responsibilities it is essential that it retains a majority over the opposition and magistrates combined.

As for the comments of various correspondents who discuss political accountability, I can only express yet again my conviction that it is the absence of the political dimension to the administration of policing as a public service, rather than its presence, which has given rise to the present lamentable decline in public support.

Accountability is essentially a political process since it is the means whereby a public service submits to the scrutiny of those whom it is designed to serve. To demand to be excused from that obligation is to deny the very basis of voluntary consent on which not only our system of policing but democratic government itself depends.

The proper safeguard against the exercise of improper political interference is not to ban politics from policing but to ensure that the elaborate system of checks and balances which already exists but is seldom invoked, is brought into effective operation. The presence of magistrates on the authority makes no contribution to this system.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET SIMEY,
Merseyside County Council,
P.O. Box 95,
Municipal House,
Old Hall Street,
Liverpool,
March 29.

From Detective Chief Inspector J. A. McStravick

Sir, I write as a Metropolitan Police CID officer to protest at the comment by your Crime Reporter in the article of March 23, headed "Sweden squads inquiries were beset by problems". I.e. "There are those who believe that the failures of Countryman will mean that corruption continues to thrive in London despite more than 100 CIB (Complaints Investigation Bureau) detectives".

Perhaps there are those who believe this, but there are those who believe no such thing, so why not give these a mention too? Who are the people that believe that corruption continues to thrive and is their opinion a justification for such a sweeping statement?

An experienced crime reporter will know that nearly all major criminal inquiries are beset with problems. It is to me that some of our analysts, no doubt stimulated by the unusual action of a senior officer being interviewed on a TV programme and forecasting the result of a complex criminal investigation, long before its completion, reveal a sense of near hysteria over the inquiry unfortunately codenamed "Countryman", and are now unwilling, in the aftermath of the trial of some junior detectives, to accept the verdict of the courts. Is the campaign against the Metropolitan Police CID to go on for ever?

I am proud to be a detective, and like my colleagues am jealous of the reputation of the Metropolitan Police. Your readers may be assured that if any of us has reason to think that our number is behaving criminally, we know what to do and we will not hesitate to give evidence. Perhaps your reporter has noticed several cases in the past few years investigated in detail, persons unfit to be police officers being convicted and sentenced to imprisonment.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. McSTRAVICK,
Detective Chief Inspector,
New Scotland Yard, SW1.

From Mr R. Peter Wassell
Sir, Your correspondent (March 24) objecting to the distinction between police and civilians is a bit naive or disingenuous. The police themselves make the distinction. For instance (a routine example) the annual reports of chief constables nearly always have a paragraph about "civilian staff".

Yours faithfully,
R. PETER WASSALL,
Lecturer in Public Affairs,
University of Edinburgh,
Extra-Mural Studies,
11 Buccleuch Place,
Edinburgh.

The middle course in UK politics

From Lord Lansdowne
Sir, Your leading article of March 27 in which you welcome, as I do, the return of Mr Roy Jenkins to the Commons where he belongs, seems to me to make an important false assumption. It is not possible that British politics are moving away from what you call a "basically adversarial culture".

Certainly, responsibility in politics is about choice. Certainly the electorate and the leaders it puts in office have to choose and be seen to have chosen, but must their choosing the country so violently from one set of beliefs to another?

Centrism, which presumably means the middle course between two extremes, is surely not the only alternative. Those extremes, I welcome the SDP trend in political fashion (its policies are yet to be fully revealed) and although I remain a convinced supporter of the Conservative Party, I do believe in proportional representation. I see many advantages in an "intermediate series of coalitions" and I favour circular Chambers for the two Houses of Parliament. In the House of Lords there are, of course, the well-filled and powerful cross benches.

Yours faithfully,
LANSDOWNE,
Meilestone,
Perth,
March 27.

From Mr Matthew Oakeshott

Sir, Your coverage of the Hillhead election result on Saturday included a characteristically thorough and professional analysis by Ivor Crewe. Your readers are, however, left trying to solve the mystery of the missing headline, because your "Good for Labour" headline, the "hard left" and Tony Benn, the fact that the Labour Party was a left-of-centre party with the Liberals pulling the social democrats to the right. If anything it was the other way round, he added.

It has never taken the politician defectors from the Labour Party very long to move much further to the right than the public stance they previously took; the defectors of 1931 were, as we know, virtually indistinguishable shortly afterwards from the Tories and Liberals they then joined in government.

One can certainly understand the enthusiasm which seems to be found in boardrooms and similar places for the SDP; this new political organization is hardly likely to start challenging the inequalities and deprivation of our society. You are etc.,
DAVID WINNICK,
House of Commons.

From Mr Michael Pickering
Sir, Mr Alexander rightly suggests (March 30) a much higher deposit for parliamentary candidates, but may I suggest that this should be accompanied by a much lower qualifying percentage; five per cent does not seem too low since a candidate achieving this is clearly being taken seriously by a significant minority.

It is absurd to place a Scottish nationalist candidate with 11.3 per cent of the votes cast in the same category as the jokers and eccentrics.
Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL PICKERING,
38 Oakwood Road, NW11,
March 30.

Ulster Assembly plan

From Professor Bernard Crick
Sir, Mr Julian Amery, MP, argues against the proposed Assembly for Ulster (March 24) on the grounds that most political leaders in Ulster do not want it and that full integration would "cement the unity of the Kingdom". But historically Northern Ireland has never been a normal part of the United Kingdom, nor a normal part of Ireland.

The suggestion that the unity of the United Kingdom (Mr Amery left out a word) has always depended on sensitivity to what Mr Amery oddly calls, in relation to Scotland and Wales, "local loyalties and prejudices" — a sadly English way of referring to two distinct peoples albeit within the Union. I put the contrary case that devolution alone can preserve the Union. The "unity of the Kingdom" lies in seeing it as a union not as a sovereign, centralized state.

The opinion polls in Northern Ireland consistently show that the majority of the people are willing to accept both devolution and, indeed, actual power-sharing. "Solutions" of any kind

British interest in S Atlantic

From Mr R. J. Rowlands
Sir, The latest fiasco in South Georgia with Argentina must surely commit the Foreign Office to a more positive attitude in this area than the dubious statements made continually in both Houses of Parliament.

The Falklands and its inhabitants can be nothing more than nuisance value to the Foreign Office, but history has shown their value in times of conflict and they may have more to offer Britain in the future, with the possibility of fish, oil and other minerals, a year-round gateway to Antarctica with its possible coalfields, copper mountains, oil and other wealth when commercial exploitation begins; also a suitable base to observe Russian submarine and other activities in the strategic Cape Horn sea route.

Finally, Argentina is not going to stop with its claims to the Falklands. It does not recognize British Antarctic territory either so there is a lot more than the future of 1,800 Falklanders at stake.
Yours faithfully,
ROBERT J. ROWLANDS,
32 Wolsley Road,
Shirley,
Southampton,
March 29.

Falklands incident

From Mr J. A. Hughes

Sir, Your Defence Correspondent's headline (March 25) "Navy sails to scrap merchants", is indeed prophetic. HMS Invincible is being sold, numerous other ships earmarked for disposal, training establishments closed down and 4,000 redundancies in the Fleet. "Merchants" looking for a "scrap" on the oceans of the world are being given a walkover before the bell sounds for the first round!

This lunacy must stop. Yours sincerely,
J. A. HUGHES,
(Formerly a leading telegraphist in the Royal Navy)
74 Faircres,
Prestwood,
Great Missenden,
Buckinghamshire.

From Mr Graham E. Cadman

Sir, May I reassure your correspondent (March 29) that the dismemberment of South Georgia whaling stations that attempts are being made to document and record their passing and that of a unique way of life on this remote island.

The South Georgia Whaling and Sealing Communities Project has established some time ago and aims to record not only the physical remains of the whaling and sealing industries, but also to establish a picture of what day-to-day life was like on the island by interviewing past residents. Earlier this century South Georgia gave lead to try to discover what may be acceptable that is not agreeable. Policies in deeply divided communities must be of that kind.

There is a more profound point. Surely it is obvious by now that the northern island has been nor can be a normal part of the United Kingdom, but equally nor a part of a united Ireland. Ulster inherently faces two ways. If they were grasped and we could discard the straitjacket of sovereignty thinking, then we could begin to imagine a future in which the people of Northern Ireland would work out for themselves the best way to institutionalize their existing British-Irish duality.

There is certainly not the intention of the Government's bold and welcome move, but at least it creates a framework for the future development in which the next decade of Northern Irish politicians could work together. The clock cannot be set back as Mr Amery wishes.
Yours faithfully,
BERNARD CRICK,
Birbeck College,
Malet Street, WC1.

Lack of harmony

From Mr Peter Heyworth

Sir, Just over 21 years ago Klepper took the Philharmonic to Vienna, where they gave a Beethoven cycle (nine symphonies) that was rightly regarded as an unprecedented triumph for British orchestral playing.

Now the managing director of the Philharmonic, among others, invokes "rules" (whose, incidentally?) to prevent a Brahms cycle (four symphonies) that the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra hopes to give in London under its musical director, Carlo Maria Giulini.

What a sad coming of age! Yours truly,
PETER HEYWORTH,
32 Bryanston Square, W1,
March 28.

Trade restrictions

From Mr A. M. Gregg

Sir, While sharing Sir Hugh Casson's opinion (March 29) on the aesthetics of the "hideous advertisements" on London taxis, I do not believe that "rapacious" car owners "rapacious" further he would have discovered that to go through the royal parks bearing advertisements, the cab trade had to get permission from the Department of the Environment. As long as the advertising agencies offer such infinitesimal amounts there is little danger of the majority of cabs carrying advertisements.

Yours faithfully,
A. M. GREGG,
(London taxi owner/driver)
6 The Avenue,
off St Stephens Road,
Hounslow,
Middlesex.

Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, in moving the Bill at second reading, said: "I emphasize that this is in no conceivable way an issue of party politics" and spoke of "our willingness to consider improvements that are practicable".

Well, it is certainly an odd way to demonstrate that, by dropping members who did have an interest and commitment to the subject and replacing them by others who patently do not. That is normally a recipe, not for serious and informed scrutiny of a Bill, but for lobby fodder.
Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL MEACHER,
House of Commons,
March 26.

Mental Health Bill

From Mr Michael Meacher, MP for Oldham, West (Labour)

Sir, The choice of membership of the Standing Committee of the Mental Health (Amendment) Bill, which meets for the first time on Tuesday (March 30), reveals an extraordinary selection process by the Government Whips.

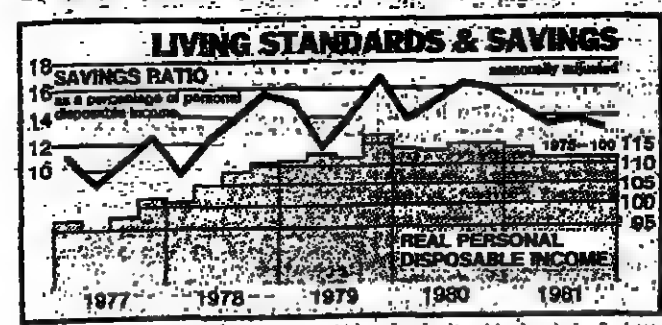
It is custom and practice in the Commons that membership of Bill-committees is selected, not totally but very largely, from those members who spoke on its second reading. In the case of the Mental Health (Amendment) Bill, which received its second reading a week ago, seven Tories spoke from the backbenches, all of them with a particular knowledge of and commitment to the

subject. Only one of them has been chosen by the Government Whips to serve on the Bill committee which must be nearly unprecedented.

The other six have been replaced by other Tory backbenchers who, whatever the reason for which they were selected, were certainly not chosen because of any obvious special interest in mental health issues as a subject. The interests of four are listed in a parliamentary yearbook as follows: Donald Thompson — former farmer and butcher; director of Armadillo Plastics; David Trippier — stockbroker; Michael Brotherton — interest in defence, foreign affairs, agriculture and children; Harvey Proctor — Monday Club, spokesman for immigrant repatriation.

BUSINESS NEWS

Tax takes its toll



Living standards in Britain fell by 2 per cent in 1981, the first year-on-year fall since 1977, as unemployment rose and higher taxes and taxes hit deeper into lower pay increases. The fall was concentrated in the second quarter of 1981 following the Chancellor's tough tax-raising Budget. Living standards — measured by after-tax income adjusted for inflation — peaked in the fourth quarter of 1979. So did the savings ratio — the proportion of income saved — at 16.7 per cent. At the end of 1981 it was down to 13.1 per cent.

Strong demand for dollar

There was a flurry of activity in the foreign exchange markets yesterday after the dollar had gained strongly on the Japanese yen and the East Asian trading overnight. This reflected demand for the dollar coupled with lack of confidence in Japan's determination to defend its currency. Substantial intervention by the West German and Swiss central banks brought the dollar back down, after it had risen to DM2.42 at one stage. Elsewhere, the Bank of France lowered short-term money rates as the franc traded well above its floor within the European Monetary System.

US store bid accepted

BATUS, the American arm of tobacco group BAT Industries, seems to have succeeded with its tender for the Chicago-based stores group Marshall Field. Its offer of \$30 a share for 65 per cent of Field's 12.4 million shares has been oversubscribed, with holders of 92 per cent accepting. BATUS will increase its \$25.50 offer for the remaining shares to \$30. The Field Group, with a 31 per cent holding, has agreed not to frustrate the bid.

Cavendish Life chief resigns

Patrick di Carlo, flamboyant banker and financier, has resigned as chairman of Cavendish Life Assurance and his interests in the company are in the process of being bought out by a corporate investor. His resignation follows allegations made by The Observer at the weekend which are stated by him to be manifestly untrue and which are the subject of proceedings for defamation. A press statement said yesterday.

MARKET SUMMARY

Celebration for Ladbroke

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 568.5 up 6.2
FT 100 68.93 up 0.63
FT All Share 326.59 up 3.28
Bargains 24,597

Cement shares were a difficult market yesterday with the prospect of cheap imports from Germany at less than half the British price, pushing Blue Circle down 14p to 450p and Rugby 54p to 854p. Elsewhere in equities the gains continued, fuelled by a further round of encouraging statements and exaggerated by stock shorting, with the FT Index closing slightly off its peak up 6.2 at 568.5. Ladbroke Group put on Sp to 180p as the market awaited good news from figures today, expected to show taxable profits up from £32.6m to at least £35m. Mr Cyril Stein, chairman, has been paying a few calls in the City and takeover rumours were not being entirely discounted. There should also be good news from Glaxo, up 10p to 520p ahead of its next week. Among other leaders, Hawker Siddeley was 3p better at 308p reflecting healthy trading news the previous day from British Aerospace, 3p firmer at 194p. Trade in the gilt market remained thin, with slightly more enthusiasm than in the last few days, despite sterling's weaker opening, and there were gains of 2 1/2p in long dates with shorts up to 4 1/2p better. Doncaster Holdings became the third car distributor in as many days to report gloomy trading news, plunging from profits of £287,000 to a pre-tax loss of £495,000 on sales down from £67.9m to £52.8m. But Mr Tom Kenny, chairman, says that, if closure costs are included there was an improvement of more than £1m and adds that a return to profit was in sight in the present year. But the real interest is whether British Car Auctions will make a bid after increasing its stake recently. Mr David Wickens, chairman, had said he was waiting for the figures but BCA was not buying in the market yesterday where it was up 36p. Coda International hardened 1p to 81p as 1981 profits were in line with the group's forecast move "what" it was fighting Barnard Off's offer while healthy trading news gave a 10p boost to Bowthorpe at 230p. Electronic group A B Electronics Products provided the star turn among yesterday's results, up 30p to 140p on a healthy return to profitability. Besides a presence in the cable television market, the group says considerable progress has been made in electronic sub-systems. Equity turnover on March 30 was £135.06m (22,458 bargains). Gareth David

COMMODITIES

Helped by the new July contract and by the belief that Nigeria has not sold cocoa beans from its 1981 crop, cocoa recovered yesterday. The July contract gained £28 over May to £1,014 a tonne but May fell by £3 to £983. There is a hope that Nigeria will keep cocoa back from the market and process it domestically. It was observed by the International Tin Council has agreed to borrow commercially to finance buffer stocks rather than apply import controls to members.

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Index 7,260.48 up 66.66
Hongkong Hang Seng Index 1,165.98 down 1.20

CURRENCIES

Early dollar strength prompted intervention from the German and Swiss central banks. The dollar later eased, quiet and steady trading to finish below its peak levels. The pound recovered from a 6-month low of \$1.7760.

LONDON CLOSE

STERLING
\$1.7820 down 5 points
Index 91.0 up 0.2
DM 4.3050
Yen 440.50
DOLLAR
Index 118.1 up 0.2
DM 2.4110 down 5 pts
GOLDS
\$320.00 down \$5.75

MONEY MARKETS

The Bank of England bought £411m of bills on a final forecast of a shortage of £300m. The Finance House Base Rate is cut from 15 1/4% to 14 1/4% from today.

TODAY

Board meetings: Interim: Bishops Products and London Weekend Television. Final: Bion, British Vending Industries, Carpets International, John P. Hughes, Gratian, Jersey Electricity, Ladbroke, Markham Securities, Thurgar, Baxley, and Trust Securities.

Crown Agents to sell up in Australia

The Crown Agents' Australian property portfolio will probably be sold within the next month. Talks with a possible buyer the Australian Mutual Provident, an insurance group, have been progressing for some weeks, and the sale is expected to raise between £330m and £350m (£183 - £195m) which is considerably lower than previous estimates. But very little if any of the proceeds are likely to find their way back to the United Kingdom because in Australia the agents have liabilities estimated to be as high as £185m. A high quality portfolio containing shops, offices and an hotel complex, the properties are owned through the Crown Agents' Australian subsidiary Abbey Capital Holdings. It is almost fully let and produces an income of about £18m a year. Jones Lang Wootton, the portfolio has been on the market since last November although it is believed the Mutual Provident is the first group to show an interest in buying the entire portfolio. Offers have been made over the past five months for individual properties but the Crown Agents has been keen to dispose of its holdings in one package. The portfolio consists of almost one million sq ft of offices and about 650,000 sq ft of retail space, including the Milton Hotel Complex in Sydney, the Wollongong shopping centre and the 300,000 sq ft Bondi Junction complex. Although the Crown Agents' activities in Australia looked like folly at the height of the property market collapse, recently there has been a shortage of office space in the country's main business centres and rents have risen strongly. A spokesman for Jones Lang, the agents handling the sale, said that the portfolio had been recently valued at more than £350m. The Capital Centre, containing the Hilton Hotel, 50,000 sq ft of shopping and 150,000 sq ft of offices, is alone estimated to be worth £100m. Meanwhile the Home Office is expecting a 1,000 page tribunal of inquiry report into the Crown Agents' overall activities from 1968-74. The tribunal was set up in 1978. It is believed the report is virtually finished and will be with ministers within the next week or so. Publication is expected this month.

Yamani attacks oil companies' pricing

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent
Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, Saudi Arabia's oil minister, yesterday launched a strong defence of Opec's refusal to cut its oil prices and blamed the big oil companies for undermining the world oil price structure for short-term tax advantages. Speaking in London, he made it clear that much of his attack was directed at companies operating in the North Sea. Reliable oil sources in London say, however, that some of the companies have cut back sharply on their liftings. Gulf, for example, is believed to have been taking less than 100,000 barrels a day for most of last month, compared with its earlier peak liftings of about 350,000 barrels a day. It would be surprising if the companies, which have told Nigeria that its oil is \$4 to \$5 a barrel too expensive, would be willing to go on taking as much oil as it is in the second quarter if the price remains unchanged. Shell, whose joint venture with the Nigerian state oil company is thought to account for up to half Nigeria's total oil production, has conceded that it is in discussions about a renegotiation of its separate oil purchasing agreement. But it says that this has been going on for some time. The threatened sanctions by Saudi Arabia against companies that have been pressing Nigeria to lower its prices have so far failed to materialize, and many observers believe that the threat was deliberately leaked to strengthen the Nigerians' hands in the negotiations.

More confusion over Nigerian cutbacks

Leading oil companies operating in Nigeria refused to be drawn yesterday on claims that they have been seeking to cut back on their contracts with the financially troubled African oil producer. The report which emanated from the official Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries news agency in Vienna, adds a new element of confusion to the deadlocked talks in Lagos between the main operators and the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation. Nigeria's oil sales have slumped from 1.2m barrels a day towards 650,000 barrels a day in the last 10 days in the wake of Opec's attempts to hold oil prices in defiance of the world oil glut. But operating companies such as Shell, Mobil and Gulf have insisted that they are continuing to lift their share of oil as normal, and have

Treasury critics rebuffed

By David Blake, Economics Editor
The Treasury has rejected criticisms of the Government's spending plans by advisers to the Commons Treasury Select Committee. In an unusually abrupt reply to the committee, the Treasury accused Dr Terry Ward, of not understanding the significance of the changes in the way public spending is now controlled. "It claims the committee asks for details of spending plans for the major programme decisions which are the subject of the White Paper. The draft of the committee's report on this year's Budget and public spending decisions is sharply critical of the White Paper. It draws attention to the fact that figures in the public spending paper were out of date by the time it was published and is sceptical about Government hopes of holding down the amount of cash it spends as much as it would hope. Sir Anthony Rawlinson, chairman of the committee, said yesterday that the Government ought to make greater efforts to measure how well its spending programmes are delivering services. But he stressed there could be no move back to the old system of trying to measure public spending in "volume" terms. He defended the realism of existing Government spending plans. The Treasury paper rejects the committee's inquiries about the volume of public spending. It says figures for this are no longer collected together and the new system of planning ahead in cash is superior in many ways. It says that "nostalgia for the old 'volume' figures may arise from a misunderstanding of what these figures purported to picture. They never gave a reliable indication of how changes in costs changed spending."

Electronics industry jobs boom on the way

Scotland to make Nippon chips

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent
The Japanese electronics company Nippon Electric Corporation (NEC) is to make a new type of advanced memory micro-chip at a new £40m factory at Livingston, Scotland. The announcement has given a further boost to the thriving Scottish semiconductor industry. The 64K RAMS chips each of which is capable of storing 64,000 units of information go into production within two years. The plant is scheduled to be in full production by 1985 thereby creating 800 jobs. Although the semiconductor manufacturing industry has been hit by the recession the five Scottish-based manufacturers have announced over the last two years expansion programmes representing a total investment of £153.5m. Hughes, General Instruments, Motorola, National Semiconductors and Nippon Electric Corporation form the backbone of that investment which will increase the job opportunities to about 6,000. The semi-conductor industry is highly competitive with the top manufacturers competing for the lucrative markets of the United States, Europe and Japan. A recent report from Macintosh Publications, of Luton, reveals how competitive the industry has become. The report concludes that in Japan alone, the top 20 semiconductor manufacturers invested \$1,000m (£562m) last year on plant and equipment. The market leader NEC is steadily increasing its investment in production capacity. That investment accounted for 24 per cent of semiconductor sales last year, compared with 22 per cent in 1980 and 19 per cent in 1979. The leaders in the market are the United States and Japan. Four out of the five

Thousands of jobs secured by Indian contracts

Britain wins £600m power exports

By Peter Hill and Edward Townsend
British engineering companies have received a boost which will secure thousands of jobs and generate export business of more than £600m. They will supply equipment and expertise to build large power stations in India and Taiwan. The Indian Government formally announced yesterday that it would enter serious negotiations with British companies for the supply of a 1,000 megawatt station and development of an associated coal mine. Northern Engineering Industries (NEI) is the lead contractor on the Indian project and will be responsible for the construction and supply of switchgear, transformers and other plant. GEC will provide the two 500 megawatt turbines and Babcock and Wilcox will, assuming agreement is reached, provide boiler and coal handling equipment. NEI is also likely to play an important part in building a fourth nuclear power station in Taiwan. The 1,950 megawatt pressurised water reactor station will cost about \$5,000m and NEI's share of the business is expected to be worth up to £90m. Taipower of Taiwan said yesterday that it would continue negotiations over the next few weeks before making a formal announcement. The lead role in the project will be taken by Combustion Engineering of the United States. Discussions on the Indian contract began more than two years ago. The British companies agreed to NEI taking the lead role a year ago and efforts to win the Indian contract have been supplemented by expertise provided to India by the Central Electricity Generating Board's overseas consultancy arm. The value of the contract will be around £250m for NEI. The further phase in negotiations with India is a breakthrough for its subsidiary, NEI Projects, in the highly competitive overseas markets. The total value of the Indian contract is likely to be about £550m and Britain's success turned on the financial package drawn up by merchant bankers Lazards in association with Government departments. To finance the project, the British Government will provide India with an additional £65m in aid. This will be supplemented by £75m from a repayment India is due to make for previous loans and which the Government has agreed should be used locally. The Government will also help India by lifting the limit on its contribution to the International Development Association (IDA), the arm of the World Bank which makes loans on easy terms. The IDA will now be able to commit up to £370m of Britain's £555m contribution. Britain's decision to waive its limit helped it win the power station order.

Boardroom changes at Duffus

ICI chief forecasts job losses

By Ronald Pullen
Gill & Duffus, the troubled commodity trading group, is strengthening its board after recent speculation that commodity losses will depress profits. The company is also rationalizing its head office staff which has so far led to about a dozen redundancies, mainly among administrative personnel. Most important is the appointment of Mr Nicholas Cosh as the new finance director. Mr Cosh made his mark at merchant bankers Charterhouse Japhet and has been associated with Charles Fothergill, the partly owned money broking subsidiary sold last week to Mercantile House. Also stepping up to the board is Mr C. Stapleton, who is the company's expert on coffee trading and is at present managing director of Peco, one of the top commodity trading subsidiaries of the company. Two directors are also leaving the board. One is Mr R. Thorne, who at 57 is retiring early from the chairmanship of the other main trading subsidiary Gill & Duffus Ltd, and the second is Mr R. McFall, who is stepping down as a non-executive director having effectively retired last December. These moves follow the resignation of Mr Pat Aitken as chairman in February. He was replaced by Mr David Pearson with Mr Ronald Blackman taking up the reins as chief executive as well as remaining deputy chairman. The boardroom changes are intended to reassure the City that the group is taking firm action to improve its management structure. Gill & Duffus is due to announce its 1981 results next Wednesday and has already warned shareholders that unauthorized commodity trading in Hongkong, losses in the United States money markets and forays into the timber market will cut pre-tax profits from £23.1m to £12m-£13m. Only last October the firm was hoping to make £16m.

Dickie Dirts shuts three shops in fight to survive

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor
Dickie Dirts, the troubled cut-price jeans shops chain, is shutting three of its five shops this week-end in an attempt to keep on trading until a creditors' meeting the first week in May. There has already been a cutback of 20 jobs out of a staff of 110, more could be at risk. "We have a serious problem because, at the moment, we are not in a position to meet all creditors' demands," said Mr Nigel Wright, 43, the one-time Portobello Road market trader who built up the chain to a £7m annual turnover in five years. He added: "This is not the end of Dickie Dirts. I hope we can find a way to keep going. Several suppliers are still willing to give us some supplies." But, at Notting Hill Gate yesterday the branch being kept open together with one at Victoria stock was much thinner than normal. There is some question as to whether Mr Wright will be able to get agreement on renewal of supply from the maker of Dickie Dirts own label jeans. Some 10,000 pairs a week had been delivered. The supplier, Renfrewshire was formed after a closure by Lee Jeans in 1980 on promises from Mr Wright that his chain would take the total production of the factory. Inverwear has reclaimed some jeans stock from Dickie Dirts because of money owed. Mr Wright yesterday blamed the rate of growth of the business as one reason for his cash flow problems. Decline in demand was only a contributory factor, he said. Some manufacturers of well-known branded jeans had also made it difficult for him to secure alternative supplies, Mr Wright added. He said that although Dickie Dirts was a limited company, he had a number of personal commitments. "I could lose everything personally," he went on.

Wren starts to design all-weather airship

By Edward Townsend
Britain's newest airship company, Wren Airways, has announced it was to begin designing an all-weather advanced metal-clad model "the first truly modern airship". The Isle of Man-based company was formed last month by Major Malcolm Wren, founder and former chairman of Airship Industries. Airship favours the development of non-rigid models while Major Wren believes that rigid types with an aluminium skin will be more successful. Major Wren has sold his shareholding in Airship to help raise the £250,000 for the initial development of a rigid ship called the R30, and has taken over Airship's Isle of Man offices and staff. Wren Airways said yesterday that negotiations for the full funding of the craft were in hand, including the establishment of an initial production plant in North America. The R30 would have a maximum speed of 135 knots and be able to maintain schedules in almost any weather conditions, Major Wren said. It would be able to carry 18 tons and was the forerunner of much larger machines. Major Wren said it had taken many years of study to identify the type of craft that appealed to the public and operator. "The future for the airship has never looked brighter." Airship Industries, whose new chairman is Mr Keith Wickenden, head of European Ferries, is developing a series of airships including one to carry 200 people at a top speed of 105 mph.

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where the best people meet.

BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

Slimmed down and Weir back to profit

Tombs hopes to continue better days

Sir Francis Tombs has found more fat on Weir Group than expected (Sally White writes). As newly appointed chairman, he instituted a rigorous financial fitness campaign and as a result the Glasgow engineering group has started the year with a profit of £8.3m against a loss of about the same last year. Market forecasts were for £7m at best, and the share price failed to respond to the good news because analysts were queuing to find out if that performance was sustainable.

Sir Francis said: "We hope to do as well this year as we did last. The improvement was almost all internally generated."

Sales were down, from £155m to £152m. Redundancy costs were also down, at £1.3m against £3m. Earnings per share are 15.9p against 15.75p. The final dividend was 1.75p, making 1.85p.

Sir Francis said that, after the measures of the last two years and the capital reconstruction of last April, Weir still a major force in the foundry industry is now well placed to take advantage of any improvement in trade.

A major area of profits in the past was desalination plant, but the important Middle East market has contracted severely.

Foundries did slightly better in Britain, and exports improved. The company has been looking for new markets for its engineering side and has made headway in supplying oil industry equipment. Leas Weir, the French associate, has done well with its contracts for heat-exchangers for the nuclear power industry there.

Gearing is now around 48 per cent of shareholder's funds. Weir says the system of cash control introduced throughout the group, with targets for each operating unit, will ensure that the healthier cash flow is maintained.

Even if the world and British economies stay flat, Weir thinks its improvement is sustainable. Weir has moved out of the League of troubled companies with a vengeance.

GRE looks to America

Soaring underwriting losses have left Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance showing only a £2m profit rise to £89m pre tax in 1981 (Peter Wilson-Smith writes). But for last May's £76m rights issue, which yielded about £6m extra investment income, and a number of other once-off items, profits would have been several million lower — and worse still at the attributable level, because a £6m fall in the tax charge largely reflects a non-recurring deferred tax release.

Earnings per share have shown a small rise and the dividend has been



Prof Robert Ball, chief of Legal & General, which has done better than hoped

raised by nearly 13 per cent to 25p gross on the enlarged capital, which should help to modify shareholder's wondering what GRE is doing with the proceeds of last year's cash call.

Finding the right acquisition in the United States has proved more difficult than GRE expected a year ago, and it appears that advanced talks with one American company were called off at a late stage. Given the appalling underwriting conditions worldwide and continuing deterioration in the United States, GRE seems to be casting its net wider.

Investment income last year rose from £99m to £136m, but underwriting losses more than offset this gain, jumping from £10.6m to £48.7m.

Australia and Canada produced the worst horror stories especially after taking account of internal reinsurance, but underwriting results could improve in both areas in 1982. But the United Kingdom, still showing an underwriting profit in 1981, will be much less costly about bad weather has already cost about £10m in claims and there is little sign of sanity returning to a fiercely competitive market where rate-cutting still abounds.

Whether GRE can really improve the overall underwriting result in 1982 remains to be seen. Meanwhile, a solvency margin of nearly 65 per cent leaves scope for the long-awaited acquisition and at 304p the yield is 8.2 per cent.

While GRE's figures were mildly disappointing, Legal & General — second biggest of the life companies — has done better than hoped. After tax and minorities profits were up by £8m to £29.4m and the dividend has been raised by 44 per cent to 18.6p gross, leaving the shares 17p higher at 250p.

The life side has come through strongly with a two-fifths rise to £19.7m, and the first-time inclusion of New York-based Government Employees Life Insurance in 1982 should leave further room for increasing the dividend.

Underwriting losses were nearly a quarter up at £18.9m, with reinsurance largely to blame and Australia — where L&G is no longer writing business — also worse. Investment income rose from £27m to £34m.

CRODA

£1/2m cost of defending Burmah bid

Croda announced pretax profits for last year up from £7.43m to £10.12m. After its successful battle to fight off Burmah Oil's takeover bid, it has already forecast another big jump in profits this year to £16m and indicated that, under good trading conditions, it could produce £30m.

The figures reveal the cost of the defence against Burmah — £550,000.

Croda's share price barely changed, given the group's forecasts. At 82p the yield is 6.6 per cent. The final dividend is 2.25p, making 3.75p against 3.1p. Sales are up at £27.7m against £25.8m. Earnings per share are 5.94p against 6.74p.

Profit of Croda Chemicals International were up from £3.1m to £5.4m; on Croda World Traders they rose from £1.2m to £3m. Croda Organic Chemicals profits fell from £2.9m to £583,000, and Croda Polymers International saw profits drop from £4.9m to £4.2m. Interest payments were down from £5.7m to £3.9m.

The Burmah offer for Croda lapsed at the beginning of last month. The dividend forecast was held to be a substantial reason for Sir Freddie Wood's success in keeping his company independent. The market may now be cautious while it waits to see how trading is doing at the interim stage.

BUNZL

Dividend raised

Bunzl, the paper, packaging and cigarette filters group, has increased pretax profits only marginally from £11.4m to £11.5m for the year to December 1981. Sales rose substantially to £245.65m from £169.52m last year, largely as a result of the sales contribution from Intercontinental Cellulose Sales, which became a Bunzl subsidiary, after being an associate, during the year.

Jersey Paper, which was bought at the end of April 1981 for £3.5m, also contributed its share to the increased turnover. Dividends have been increased from 4.31p gross to 5p gross, giving an increased total payout for the year of 11.42p gross, against 10.32p last year.

The company said yesterday that though the final dividend has been raised on the 1980 pay-out, part of the increase is a step towards correcting the wide disparity between interim and final dividends.

For the same reason, it does not expect to raise the half-year dividend for 1982 over the 6.42p gross paid last year.

On trading profit, which fell from £8.4m to £8.1m, the company said only 42 per cent of the total came from cigarette filter operations against 71 per cent in 1980. Profit from merchandising operations rose to 33 per cent from 15 per cent last year.

Net cash balances rose during the year from £5m to £6.6m, in spite of the 1981 acquisitions, the company says. There is access to adequate outside and internally generated funds to carry on the planned development programme, it says.

MOLINS

Profit hopes

Action by Molins to restructure its tobacco machinery and packaging businesses should see the group return closer to former earnings levels this year.

But pretax profits slumped by £1m to £7.5m in the year to December, the third year in which profits have fallen but in line with group forecasts. However the shares responded with a 7p rise to 170p. The final dividend has been marginally

lifted to 8.14p gross, against 8p, making a total for the year of 11.27p gross.

The packaging machinery division trimmed losses to £900,000 against £1.3m last year. Losses are again attributable to Masson Scott Thrissell Engineering and were taken before restructuring costs, including a number of redundancies.

Molins says that the order position for corrugated board machinery is less than satisfactory and prospects for improvement depend mainly on the United States economy and better product ranges.

Group trading profit of £8.7m compares with £10.8m, with tobacco machinery showing a real downturn to £9.6m from £12.1m. Much of the decline was in the Saunderton division, where profits were depressed because of new products and severe competition.

Extraordinary items cost £1.4m, which leaves attributable profits at £2.9m against £1.1m and earnings per share down at 14.6p against 22.5p. Group sales rose £8m to £132.5m.

Sir Harry Moore, chairman, says the tobacco machinery business has a full order book and actions taken last year will improve performance at the Bristol and Deptford operations.

Unless there is any further depression in the United States corrugated board markets, the group expects higher profits this year.

SILKOLINE

More stability

Increased stability in the specialized sector of the oil industry during the second half of the year helped Silkolene Lubricants raise taxable profits to £945,000 against £868,000 in the year to December.

The second half year profits of £311,000 against £647,000 in the face of strong competition in the market place. Sales for the full year fell from £14.04m to £14.0m.

The group is raising dividends for the year from 7.14p gross to 8.52p per share with a 7.03p final distribution.

Activity in the current year has been maintained at the level of the latter part of 1981. The group says that barring the unforeseen it expects a better performance than last year.

As planned, the group is uprating the operation of its used oil refining process which is expected to have a significant impact on profits in the second half of this year.

Silkolene shares rose 10p to 180p; where they yield 4.7 per cent on the increased dividend. Burnett & Hallamshire and Brown, Shipley both have a 10 per cent stake in the group following the sale by Croda International early last year of its 20 per cent holding.

BOWTHORPE

Sound growth

Bowthorpe Holdings, the electronic components group, has fared better than expected, with profits up by 25 per cent in the year to December.

The Sussex-based group recorded pre tax profits of £11.4m, against £9.05m on turnover which climbed by nearly £10m to £63.9m. With the news of a final dividend rise to 2.7p gross, making a total of 4.87p against 4.2p, the group's shares jumped 10p to 230p, the high for the year.

Bowthorpe says that all its business improved last year. In the United Kingdom Bowthorpe drew sound growth from its customers in telecommunications, aerospace and military industries, but there was flat demand for its products in the consumer durable and car industries. A recent deal with British Telecom for closure systems is valued at £1m.

Bowthorpe has more than half its business overseas, and its South African, United States and Japanese markets all saw improved trading.

Share of profits from associate companies rose by £500,000 to £1.75m and profits attributable are £1m higher at £5.6m. Earnings per share are up to 14.1p compared with 11.5p.

● Dorada Holdings. The motor vehicle distribution, engineering and merchandising group has announced a pretax loss of £1.56m for the year to end-December 1981 (£1.352m loss), on turnover of £52.789m (£67.954m).

The loss after extraordinary costs relating to closures and reorganization was £2.310m. Interest charges were down from £1.423m to £999,809.

● Finance house base rate will be 14 1/2 per cent from today, a drop of half a point on the previous level. The Finance Houses Association said. The rate is calculated at the end of each month by averaging the cost of three month money in the inter-bank market over the previous eight weeks, and rounding up to the next half point.



Results for 1981

Subject to audit the results of Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance plc for the year ended 31st December, 1981 are as follows:

	1981 £m	1980 £m
Investment Income	135.5	99.0
Less Interest Payable	9.8	9.6
	125.7	89.4
Underwriting Results		
Short-term (Fire, Accident and Marine)	(48.7)	(10.6)
Long-term	12.1	8.3
	(36.6)	(2.3)
Profit before taxation	89.1	87.1
Less taxation	28.8	34.9
Profit after taxation	60.3	52.2
Less Preference dividend and Minority Interests	3.1	1.7
Profit after taxation available to Ordinary shareholders	57.2	50.5
Ordinary Dividends		
Interim 6.75p per share	10.6	7.5
Proposed Final 10.75p per share	16.9	12.0
Total	27.5	19.5
Profit transferred to Retained Profits	£29.7m	£31.0m
Earnings per Ordinary share (after taxation)	39.5p	38.8p

The earnings per Ordinary share for 1980 have been adjusted to take account of the bonus element in the rights issue in June 1981. The 1981 dividends are payable on the increased share capital.

Results by Territories (before taxation)

	1981			1980		
	Net Premiums	Underwriting Result	Investment Income	Net Premiums	Underwriting Result	Investment Income
Australia	47.3	(4.7)	5.3	29.5	(1.8)	4.9
Canada	67.5	(8.1)	8.7	49.0	(2.6)	5.0
France	14.6	(4.8)	2.6	11.8	(0.7)	1.9
Germany	133.4	(4.6)	15.0	113.5	(5.2)	12.6
South Africa	36.3	(2.3)	3.8	26.3	(0.7)	2.6
U.K.	358.8	0.5	59.4	324.4	7.0	41.0
U.S.A.	59.3	2.8	7.2	45.9	2.3	5.0
Miscellaneous	144.9	(27.5)	23.7	125.9	(8.9)	16.4
	862.1	(48.7)	125.7	726.3	(10.6)	89.4

The territorial results are stated after reinsurance protection from group companies including protection under the worldwide stop loss arrangements. The 'Miscellaneous' underwriting result includes this reinsurance in respect of the territories shown opposite:

	1981 £m	1980 £m
Australia	(6.6)	(2.2)
Canada	(5.2)	(2.9)
South Africa	(8.4)	0.3
Others	(0.8)	0.8
	(19.0)	(4.0)

Exchange Rates								
	1981	1980		1981	1980		1981	1980
Australia	1.69	2.03	France	10.88	10.84	South Africa	1.83	1.78
Canada	2.27	2.85	Germany	4.29	4.70	U.S.A.	1.91	2.39

The results reflect the extreme competition experienced by the insurance industry in most of the territories in which the Group operates. The short-term business in some territories has also been affected by exceptional circumstances which have contributed to the heavy underwriting losses being suffered beyond those anticipated.

There has been a satisfactory growth in investment income, which has also benefited from the investment of the proceeds of the rights issue made in June 1981, pending its deployment in our expansion programme. We have examined a number of potential acquisitions but to date have not found any which meet our requirements at prices we could justify. We continue to be active in this area.

The profits from our long-term business have also grown satisfactorily and have benefited this year from the declaration of a special bonus on certain policies issued by Guardian Assurance plc, whereby a part of the terminal bonus previously allowed was vested, the shareholders' proportion of which amounted to £2.5m.

During 1981 sterling has weakened against the currencies of most major territories and exchange rate movements have had the effect of increasing premium income by £59m, investment income by £7.8m, and the short-term business underwriting loss by £5.7m.

Dividend

The Directors recommend the payment of a final dividend which, with the interim payment made in January 1982, will constitute an increase of 12.9% compared with the dividend paid in respect of the year 1980.

If approved at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 26th May, 1982 a payment at the rate of 10.75p per share (gross equivalent 15.36p) in respect of the final dividend will be made on 2nd July, 1982 to holders of Ordinary shares whose names appear on the register at 3 p.m. on 28th May, 1982, making with the interim payment in January last, a total of 17.50p (1980: 15.5p) per share (gross equivalent 25.00p, 1980: 22.14p).

The Annual Report and Accounts will be posted to shareholders on 29th April 1982. Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance plc. Royal Exchange London EC3V 3LS

Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance
An insurance service worldwide

BIDS AND DEALS

Dupont has acquired McDowell, Knaggs and Associates and MKA Personnel of Worcester. The MKA companies, whose combined asset value is approximately £20,000, provide a range of specialized computer services including sales of microcomputers and systems, software development and personnel recruitment and training. The activities are complementary to those of Dupont's Computer Services subsidiary.

Negotiations are taking place between Tiger Data and National Milling, Barrow-in-Furness, the South African Mutual Assurance Society and Imperial Cold Storage, which could result in a merger between Tiger and the sugar interests of C.G. Smith in a new holding company. C.G. Smith will also acquire a substantial interest in ICS.

Simon Engineering and Hoechst, the German chemicals company, have formed a joint company to expand their mutual interests in the oil field service industry. Hoechst UK is buying 50 per cent of TR Oil Services, a Simon subsidiary which supplies specialist oilfield chemicals and related services to the North Sea and Middle East. Price for the deal was not disclosed. Mr Robert Fleming, managing director of TR, predicted the development of chemical techniques which would improve oilfield recovery rates from around 30 per cent to 40 per cent or 50 per cent.

Hoechst UK today disclosed its sales last year rose 13.5 per cent to £44.9m and profit after interest, tax, minorities and extraordinary items totalled £5.1m against a loss of £3.5m in 1980 when there had been an extraordinary charge of £6.8m including redundancies.

OVERSEAS COMPANIES

Cie Generale de Geophysique (CGG), a French geophysical prospecting company, reported a 131.6 per cent growth in income last year to £549.8m. It includes £135m capital gains from restructuring its United States activities.

Societe Generale de Belgique announced 1981 losses of £2.60m, compared with profits of £923m the previous year and a cut of £135 in its dividend to £90. It blamed the poor performance on its merger with the Union Miniere mining and investment group, which had losses of £2.60m, and the difficulties of the engineering firm in Sybetta in Iraq. Sybetta is reported to have lost £4,700m in a contract to build a large plant and phosphate mine there.

Profit after tax and payment of interest and minority interests but before extraordinary payments, dropped 81 per cent in 1981 to £4.10.5m, the British Petroleum Co of Australia said. Group turnover rose 18 per cent to \$A2,106m.

Kulim (Malaysia) said, its group profit after tax fell 33 per cent to 8.5m ringgits last year. The decline was due to losses at an associated company's palm oil refinery and rubber processing and hotel companies.

Croda 1981 results

	1981 £000	1980 £000
Unaudited Sales	277,725	275,802
Profit		
Croda Chemicals International	5,394	3,166
Croda World Traders	3,013	1,229
Croda Organic Chemicals	583	2,961
Croda Polymers International	4,231	4,904
Surplus on disposal of investments and properties	823	939
Profit before interest	14,044	13,199
Interest	3,918	5,762
Profit before tax	10,126	7,437
Profit after tax	8,316	7,190
Extraordinary items	2,183	1,752
Net profit available to ordinary shareholders	4,091	5,366
Earnings per 10p share	5.94p	6.74p
Ordinary dividends per share		
Proposed final (payable 1 July 1982)	2.25p	1.6p
Making total for the year	3.75p	3.1p

Copies of Report and Accounts available on and after 1 May 1982 from the Secretary
Croda International Plc
Covick Hall, Smith Gate,
North Humberdale DN14 9AA.

ARTHUR BELL
SCOTCH WHISKY DISTILLERS

INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENT (UNAUDITED)
FOR THE HALF-YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER, 1981

	Half-year ended 31st December, 1981 £000's	Half-year ended 31st December, 1980 £000's
Group Turnover — excluding inter-company sales	146,574	137,518
Scotch Whisky Division	133,900	127,399
Glass Container Division	15,217	12,460
Transport Division	2,537	2,287
Less: Intra Group Trading	151,654	142,145
	5,080	4,626
	146,574	137,518
Group Trading Profit	17,741	13,688
Less: Depreciation — Note 1	1,317	1,198
Add: Investment Income	16,424	12,490
	5	5
Less: Interest on loans	16,429	12,495
	1,551	2,717
Group Profit before Taxation	14,878	9,278
Scotch Whisky Division	14,554	10,280
Glass Container Division	222	(560)
Transport Division	114	70
Less: Intra Group Trading	14,890	9,790
	12	17
	14,878	9,778
Taxation	5,950	2,450
Group Profit after Taxation	8,928	7,328
Basic earnings per Ordinary Share	12.80p	10.50p
Fully diluted earnings per Ordinary Share — Note 2	11.46p	

Dividends
The Directors have declared an Interim Dividend for the year to 30th June, 1982 on the Ordinary Share Capital of 1.7p per Ordinary Share (1980: 1.55p) absorbing £1,185,000 (£1,084,000). The Interim Dividend will be paid on 1st June, 1982 to Ordinary Shareholders on the Register at the close of business on 6th May, 1982. A Preference Dividend amounting to £7,700 (£7,700) was paid in the six months' period to 31st December, 1981.

Note 1
No depreciation has been provided on the part of Freehold Heritable Properties relative to Buildings as the Board considers that such Buildings currently have a value not less than that shown in the Accounts.

Note 2
The fully diluted earnings per Ordinary Share take account of the ultimate conversion terms of the 9% Convertible Unsecured Loan Stock issued in December, 1980.



ESTABLISHED 1825 AND STILL AN INDEPENDENT COMPANY

Babcock International's pre-tax profits of £14.1m for 1981 on turnover of £956m is a figure that much to shout about, but the group has done considerably better than many in holding its head above water through the recession.

Indeed, with a tight squeeze on working capital and a favourable flow of contract payments, the net borrowing position actually improved last year as the group generated £28.5m in cash.

But the company could not take rate terms; and that changes net gearing down from well over 50 per cent to under 45 per cent.

The mainstay has again been the British power group where a good workload has lifted trading profits from £8.4m to £10.7m out of group trading

cash planning for public spending is all about. The critics think that the figures for public spending in the White Paper are unrealistically low; the Treasury says they will be made to stick.

One line of argument does emerge. The Treasury concedes that the inflation figures used converting last year's White Paper into cash are lower than the figure now being forecast for inflation for the whole year.

But there the agreement pretty well ends. The Treasury denies that the fact that it is now making different inflation assumptions invalidates the cash plans, not any notional "volume" ideas, are what the government is now pledged to.

Legislation introduced in the Senate will require a major percentage of the foreign cars sold in the United States to be built with American parts and labour. Under the legislation, any company that sells more than 100,000 vehicles in the United States will have to produce or buy domestic production worth 25 per cent of its total sales in America. A sliding scale will mandate 50 per cent for those with sales over 150,000; 75 per cent for those over 200,000 and 90 per cent over 500,000. The requirement would be phased in beginning with the 1983 model year.

Workers at Sabena, Belgium's financially ailing national airline, have accepted a series of austerity measures, including wage cuts of up to 17 per cent. In a staff referendum, almost 68 per cent of the workforce voted in favour of the cuts, but flight staff have served a strike notice that expires on April 16 in protest at the measures.

● February consumer prices in the European Community were up 0.6 per cent from January and 12 per cent from the same 1981 month, the EEC statistical agency Eurostat reported. Inflation in the 10 EEC countries slowed down from the 1 per cent rise recorded in January and matched December's 16-month low. The highest February rate of inflation was recorded in Italy, where prices rose 1.3 per cent. Britain recorded no rise at all.

Indonesia will have to import 600,000 to 700,000 tons of sugar in the year beginning in April to make up for a shortfall in domestic production, government officials said.

Forty-one oil companies had been invited to bid in the first stage and 35 had submitted applications by March 30. The bidding area covers the South Yellow Sea and Pearl River mouth basin.

Nor would first impressions suggest a man who had spent nearly 20 years in the Royal Navy, at ease in peaked cap and uniform. Far easier to imagine him with a cutlass between his teeth, sailing north under the Red Ensign but under the Jolly Roger.

at tasks as ICI chairman
to be to supervise the
company's massive new invest-
ment at the same German
site.
After marriage in 1943 and
the birth of a daughter who
inherited polio, Lt Comdr
John Jones was called to
the Cabinet Office for a two-
year stint.
His work during that time
was top secret, and is the
only today he does not
know the full details of.
Referring to describe him-
self as living on the Essex-
Essex border. He was
in the MBE for "ser-
vices to industry."
His daughter's illness
compelled him to leave the
army on compassionate
grounds in 1956.
The case of Mr Harvey-
Jones, civilian, is perhaps
more remarkable, starting as
it did with a lowly job in

I still find my career an enigma. I don't really understand why ICI selected me and moved me to other jobs at crucial times. I'm an all-rounder in every sort of way.'

's Work Study Department at a salary of £800 a year.

"I was a time and motion man," he says, adding, after a pause: "I still find my career an enigma. I don't really understand why ICI selected me and moved me to senior jobs at crucial times. I'm an oddball in every sort of way. I'm not a technical man, and I had no management experience, then."

But the oddball began to quite quickly, becoming deputy supply manager at Teeside after two years, and supply manager three years after that. Pick-up speed ever more rapidly, he progressed through the Heavy Organic Chemicals division at Wilton, acquiring experience in sales, techno-commercial director, and in 1968 he was appointed deputy chairman of the division.

troubleshooting role, and marked him as one of the highest of the high fliers. The huge Watson site, a sort of small industrial town with a chaotic management structure, was the main obstacle to ICI's attempt to bring all grades of hourly-paid workers under a new weekly-paid staff agreement for the whole company.

"It was a very formative job," says Mr Harvey-Jones. "I was given responsibility without power. I asked for power to hire and fire

"Instead I was given a new organization, the Wilmington Coordinating Committee, of which I was chairman, with the chairmen from each of the divisions. It looked like a typical CIO compromise, but somewhat to my surprise, it worked".

His achievement was recognized with his appointment in 1970 as chairman of Heavy Organic Chemicals, now renamed the Petrochemicals Division. He was catapulted over several people he had worked under less than three years before.

main board in 1973 completed a 16-year period in which he had risen from the bottom to the top.

"I'm ambitious to make things happen", he says, "but I'm not personally ambitious, not a climber. I've never worried much about promotion".

The remark is that of a man who appears not to care

talks freely about his enthusiasms, however trivial they appear. He is an excellent cook, and that probably takes up more of his weekends than his other favourite country pursuits of walking and bird-watching.

There is something impenetrable about a man who is such stimulating company but who cannot hide his impatience to get on with the job.

"The chemical industry in Europe is in a mess", he declares. "There's a period of readjustment ahead and ICI has substantial overhang of capacity. All of us failed to appreciate in time that growth in the industry was coming to an end. "From 1974 we appreciated that growth was reducing,

but each time we took action, we found we were chasing low growth downwards, always a few per cent behind the time market.

"The European industry has not shaken out like the United States. Where perhaps five companies compete for a market over there, in Europe you would probably have 20. "I believe if you want to be successful in the chemical industry, you've got to be ahead in the area you choose to be in. You've got to have an edge."

not necessarily mean chopping off unprofitable parts of the company's operations, although few doubt that he will be prepared to wield the axe. In dyestuffs, for instance, which is presently a loss-making sector, he takes the view that ICI may have over-specialized, so that high fixed costs and a narrow range of selling outlets combined to squeeze potential profits.

On bulk plastics, however, where European overcapacity is chronic, Mr Harvey-Jones is less sanguine. "I can't see any alternative but a war of attrition," he says.

He admits that ICI's new massive plant at Wilhelmshaven should have been built years ago but says he

He is less confident about the company's position in polyethylene production.

where low-pressure techniques have enabled Dow Chemicals and Union Carbide to gain ground at the expense of ICI and others.

"I think we made a misjudgment by not exploring the technology," he confesses. "Now the field is going to be very crowded."

Overall, he says he can only see the company con-

The future, of course, is far from bleak for ICI. Last year's pre-tax profits of \$335m were a useful improvement on the previous year's \$242m, and with expansion areas like drugs, paint, and agrochemicals, the company

The chairman has plenty to think about, much of it highly encouraging. He could not disguise his high spirits in the wake of the Hillhead by-election.

"It's a bit difficult for me. I'm an SDP member, but as ICI chairman I should be non-political."

Such considerations, however, are unlikely to stop him speaking his mind.

has been partly offset by a £2.75m reversal in construction equipment where the loss is £941,000 — and Winger of Rochester is soon

Overseas, a strong recovery by the FATA European Group and a substantial profits rise in Australia has been aided by additional contract costs in South Africa (now the subject of claims) and contract problems at the German Claudius Diers.

In North America loading has been largely maintained in areas at the expense of margins to give similar trading profits of £3.36m (before heavy interest charges) on turnover of £251m. How soon the American economy, and particularly the motor industry, will show significant recovery remains to be seen.

Indeed, the general message from Babcock is that the rationalization and improvements made in the group over the past couple

irrespective of any improvement in economic conditions.

On a maintained, albeit uncovered, dividend of 7p a share, the yield is 9.4 per cent with the shares up 10p to 106p last night.

Public spending

A rinoste

impairs the intended level of service." That is an admission that lurking behind the cash figures there is a commitment to a level

search for efficiency fails, what will the government do then?

It is hard not to think that the Treasury's emphasis on the MPA is aimed at sending departments who do not take the future cash spending totals very seriously.

Given that the government had to announce spending plans for this year in March, it is not surprising that it intended to last April, this is not surprising. The Treasury paper is full of references to the role of ministers making explicit decisions and to the starting assumption that the cash figure will not be less than nothing in dispels the belief that the amount of cash for public spending needed in 1983-84 will have to be considerably larger

The full National Income figures for 1981 confirm the sharp recovery in company profits in the second half of last year — and that goes for profits outside the North Sea sector too. However, profits outside the North Sea sector were still down by a tenth (after stock appreciation) on their 1978 peak.

Company or Firm	Sales 1964	Profit 1964	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
A. B. Electronic (I)	11,810 (2.0)	0,203,566)	5.31 (5.7a)	2,500 (5)	—	(4.0)
Babcock (F)	95,838 (2.3)	14,111 (5.2)	8.15 (9.1)	3,633 (8)	1/6	7/67
Bowthorpe (F)	56,885 (4.8)	11,418 (0.4)	14,111 (5.9)	1,811 (5)	1/7	3,402
Cambridge (F)	245,091 (5.5)	2,450 (6.7)	25,000 (2.3)	3,000 (2)	1/7	1,600
R. Cartwright (F)	8,868 (2.7)	0,886 (0.9)	8,134 (5.1)	2,762 (2)	—	413)
Cassfielden Rtr (I)	1,771 (1.02)	0,680 (2.4)	—	—	—	(14.0)
Croda (F)	277,272 (5)	10,107 (4.3)	5,396 (11)	2,351 (5)	1/7	3,763 (1)
Deale (F)	1,570 (1.23)	0,711 (2.1)	0,210 (2.5)	0,20 (2.5)	—	0.45 (5.5)
Doradz (F)	52,716 (5.55)	1,561 (3.4)	15,44 (13.2a)	—	—	(2.1)
G.R.E. (F)	—	89,187 (1)	39,538 (8.1)	10,719 (5)	2/7	17,515 (5)
Johnson, Chicos (F)	6,588 (3.5)	—	18,708 (7.8)	3 (4.4)	—	136)
Kapil & Gas (F)	—	36,827 (2.3)	—	9 (9)	—	136)
Magnolia (F)	8,337 (2.50)	0,850 (5.75)	9,911 (13.2)	1,711 (5)	28/5	2,332 (1)
Molins (F)	1,325 (1.24.5)	7,863 (8)	14,822 (5.5)	15,759 (6)	—	9,755)
Dark Place (I)	2,942 (4.2)	0,402 (2.2)	4,263 (1.1)	1,711 (2)	—	1,711
Silkstone (F)	14,114 (0.4)	0,940 (8.25)	15,114 (1.4)	4 (3.5)	—	6 (5)
W. Tyzack, Sons (I)	2,262 (0.5)	0,035 (0.086a)	2,863 (7.4)	0.5 (—)	—	(1.0)
Ward (F)	1,595 (5.5)	8,525 (2a)	15,964 (7.4)	1,751 (6.5)	27/5	1,855 (—)
Wilkinson Warburton (F)	24 (2.54)	0,80 (7.8)	21,431 (5.53)	4 (5.3)	21/6	6,626 (29)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pension plan shares. Earnings in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.425. Profits at above prices and earnings are net, a=Loss.

[illegible]

New York, March 31. — Prices ended slightly lower in moderately active trading on the New York Stock Exchange.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down by 0.66 to 332.34, shortly after the market closed.

Declines outnumbered advances by 332 to 312 among the 1,038 issues crossing the tape.

Prices of 30 issues moved reached 2.36m shares.

Prices were mixed in moderate volume on the American Stock Exchange.

Analysts said that the market will continue Tuesday's aimless trading as traders, nervous about Reagan's news conference tonight.

They said investors want a clear sign from Mr. Reagan that he is willing to compromise with Congress on Budget deficit cuts. Such an indication would be a relief to the bond and stock market, which has been trying to rally recently amid continuing economic uncertainties.

The Wall Street and Canadian stock prices in the table below as of Tuesday's close because of the shift to British Summer Time. This will continue until Eastern Daylight Time begins in the United States.

A&N Bank	13%
Barclays	13%
BCCI	13%
Consolidated Crds ..	13%
C. Hoare & Co	*13%
Lloyds Bank	13%
Midland Bank	13%
Nat Westminster	13%
TSE	13%
Williams & Glyn's	13%

The Over-the-Counter Market							
1981/82							
High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Vol	Ytd %	P/E Ratio
130	100	Aas Brit Ind CULS	130	+2	10.0	7.7	—
75	62	Airprogr Inc	73	—	4.7	6.4	11.6
51	33	Armbrige & Rhodes	45	—	4.3	9.6	3.8
157	107	Barton Hill	231	+2	9.1	9.8	8.5
100	100	CCIL 11% Conv Pft	107	—	15.7	14.7	—
104	62	Deborah Services	62	—	6.0	9.7	3.1
131	97	Frank Horsell	126	—	6.4	5.1	11.4
83	39	Frederick Parker	77	—	6.4	8.3	3.9
78	46	George Blair	54	+1	—	—	—
102	93	Ind Prev Castings	96	+1	7.3	7.6	6.9
100	100	Isis Conv Pft	109	+1	15.7	14.4	—
113	94	Jackson Group	97	—	7.0	7.2	3.1
130	108	James Burrough	116	—	8.7	7.5	8.5
234	245	Robert Hill	246	—	31.3	12.7	3.4
64	51	Servotons "A"	64	—	5.3	8.3	9.8
252	159	Torday & Carlisle	159	—	10.7	6.7	5.1
15	10	Twinklco 15%	14	—	—	—	—
80	66	Twinklco 15% ULS	80	+½	15.1	18.8	—
44	25	Unilock Holdings	25	—	3.0	12.0	4.5
103	73	Walter Alexander	80	+1	6.4	8.0	5.3
263	212	W. S. Yeates	227½	—	14.5	6.4	5.9

Prices now available on Prestel page 48146

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- ★ E & G's portfolio is not of the quality of Federated's
- ★ If Federated acquired E & G the enlarged group will have borrowings of £24 million before major expenditure on the Hanley development
- ★ In the circumstances trading of properties currently held for investment will be necessary to undertake further developments

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CRICKET: A SUBDUED RETURN FROM SOUTH AFRICA

The rebels play a dead bat

The rebel England cricketers lured to South Africa by the promise of big money flew back to Britain yesterday, playing a straight bat to any enquiries. A group flew into Heathrow Airport from Johannesburg. Graham Gooch, the captain with his wife Brenda, Geoff Boycott and his girlfriend Anne, John Emburey, Chris Old, Geoff Hounslow, Arnie Sidebottom, Les Taylor and Peter Willey.

The aircraft, a South African Airways jumbo jet, was parked on an outside stand. The players remained behind in the first class lounge until all the other passengers had disembarked, then they travelled to the terminal on their own airline bus to clear customs.

Geoff Boycott led the dash into the Customs Hall, wearing a baseball cap pulled low over his eyes. His girlfriend, Anne, was left behind. She tried to get her face with a scarf. Neither of them stopped to make any comment.

Graham Gooch, smiling and surrounded by his wife, Brenda, said: "Phew, I'm glad to be back. There's no place like home is there? Yes I enjoyed myself."

The three Kent players, Bob Woolmer, Alan Knott and Derek Underwood were not in the party. Woolmer was believed to have arrived from Amsterdam aboard another flight. It is understood that Knott and Underwood were staying in South Africa for a holiday with their wives. Three players have still to be accounted for: John Lever, Dennis Amis and Wayne Larkins.

When the players emerged from the Customs Hall, it was found that Mike Hendrick, the Derbyshire bowler, was amongst them. He also refused to comment. All the players were accompanied by uniformed police officers. The Police said they were there to prevent any trouble between cricketers and waiting Pressmen.

Boycott, by now minus his cap, came out surrounded by five uniformed officers. He was taken to top speed to a waiting taxi, smiling and maintaining a silence. A radio reporter who tried to step in front of the taxi moving Boycott was brushed aside by a policeman.

A certain silence

Sydney, March 31 Nobody in cricket circles here is saying much about the possibility of a team of Australian players being sent to tour South Africa. Australia, does seem, however the logical recruit

ground if a follow-up is planned to the English tour.

The Australian cricket board has reaffirmed its stand against official contact with South Africa for the past 12 years because of its apartheid policies. But, a similar attitude by England's Test and County Cricket Board did not deter Gooch, Boycott and 13 other prominent players from making the trip for which they were lured from Test cricket for three years.

Joe Parness, the South African Cricket Union president, asked if Johannesburg, whether further tour was envisaged, replied: "There is nothing planned at this stage." But his statement is unlikely to halt the rumors here of an Australian follow-up.

One rumor had a South African cricketer who played in Australia, Douglas Clarke, recently returning from South Africa with a bag full of invitations.

Greg Chappell, the Australian captain, said he had not been approached, but did not rule out the possibility of his accepting an invitation to make a South African tour.

Tony Greig, the South African-born former England captain who now lives in Australia, said he had nothing to do with any such tour. He added that he did not want to be involved — he and his wife have applied for Australian citizenship.

Commenting earlier on reports that Australian players had been contacted on the recent tour of New Zealand, Mr Greig said: "There is probably a rugby type with friends in South Africa doing the early work."

One less Test for longer tour

Although there will be one fewer Test match in the Ashes series, the tour to Australia will be another one. The Ashes series will consist of five Tests over the next few weeks, followed by a triangular programme of one-day matches involving New Zealand and the two top teams.

There will be five one-day internationals between each of the countries, plus a best-of-three final between the two top teams.



Graham and Brenda Gooch: 'There's no place like home.'

Boycott enjoys a game with black and white

Geoffrey Boycott made a sudden change of sport yesterday upon his return from the cricket tour of South Africa. Boycott (pictured, left, at Heathrow yesterday), delighted Mann's, the sponsors of the forthcoming British dominoes championship, by turning up, as he had promised two months ago, to challenge reigning champion, Peter Houston.

Boycott, banned from Test cricket for three years, could have a future on the dominoes board. He beat Houston 2-1.

WALSH: J. Callard (Oxford), T. Davies (Oxford), S. Hill (Oxford), P. Jones (Oxford), J. Morgan (Oxford), J. Roberts (Oxford), J. Smith (Oxford), J. Taylor (Oxford), J. Thomas (Oxford), J. Turner (Oxford), J. Walker (Oxford), J. White (Oxford), J. Wilson (Oxford), J. Wood (Oxford), J. Wright (Oxford), J. Young (Oxford), J. Ziegler (Oxford).

official was obeyed for the rest of the game.

England's victory in the match, which was sponsored by Esso, came by a goal, two penalty goals and two tries against two tries.

By half-time England led 7-4 with Hill profiting from a break by his scrum half to score a try.

Wales' second try in injury time from the back of a line out.

WALSH: J. Callard (Oxford), T. Davies (Oxford), S. Hill (Oxford), P. Jones (Oxford), J. Morgan (Oxford), J. Roberts (Oxford), J. Smith (Oxford), J. Taylor (Oxford), J. Thomas (Oxford), J. Turner (Oxford), J. Walker (Oxford), J. White (Oxford), J. Wilson (Oxford), J. Wood (Oxford), J. Wright (Oxford), J. Young (Oxford), J. Ziegler (Oxford).

Ardiles is cleared to play in FA Cup final

Cesar Menotti, Argentina's manager, yesterday said he would be willing to release Osvaldo Ardiles from World Cup training to play for Tottenham Hotspur in the FA Cup final.

"We have an important commitment to Tottenham because they have never refused to release the player," Mr Menotti said in Buenos Aires. "I don't think it is a problem for us as long as it does not affect the national team's work or plans."

Ardiles, who helped Argentina win the World Cup in 1978, travels to South Africa to play Tottenham's semi-final against Leicester City on Saturday. If Spurs reach Wembley, Ardiles hopes to play against Spurs in a final.

Mr Menotti said he was not sure if he would be able to release Ardiles to play for Tottenham in the FA Cup final. He said he would have to consult with the Argentine Football Association.

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Galvin will today be named in Tottenham's semi-final side, but Mr Burkinshaw's selection is bound to disappoint at least two players. Miller was dropped for the first time this season against Arsenal in Monday's rearranged league game, and the chances are that Price and Roberts will again be the central defensive pairing against Leicester.

Mr Burkinshaw finds it hard to disguise his admiration for Roberts and the midfield player. "It is difficult to leave either of them out," he said. "Miller lost his form over the last two or three games. He has struggled a bit with a groin strain, but this is what has been happening. Play with slight injuries has said they are perfectly fit simply because they did not want to drop out of the side."

Mr Burkinshaw's current competition for places at White Hart Lane — and Villa could be the other odd man out against Leicester. Villa manager, Brian Clough, was injured but Crooks (knee) and Archibald (slight calf strain) look certain to be fit.

Leicester's goalkeeper-captain Mark Wallington, who last season led the club to a first division title, is expected to be receiving treatment for a thigh injury suffered during the sixth round tie against Shrewsbury Town.

Coincidentally Wallington ended a six-match absence in Tuesday's second division match at Shrewsbury, a match that saw Kelly sent off.

Kelly is available for the semi-final, but Leicester's manager John Walsall may decide whether or not the player is match-fit after playing just 30 minutes in a fortnight.

Walsall, the third division, will be without six first-team players because of injuries.

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Borg postpones return

Monte Carlo, March 31. — Bjorn Borg has postponed until Friday his return to Grand Prix tennis after a five months' rest. He should have returned to a qualifying round tomorrow of the Monte Carlo tournament, but asked for his first match to be put back to Friday to give him more training time.

The five-time Wimbledon champion is expected to compete in the qualifiers of any Grand Prix tournament he enters this year, because he refuses to enter the minimum ten required to earn him exemption.

As a local resident and member of the host club, he might have expected to receive a wild card to him straight to the first round proper here, but he agreed to compete in the preliminaries.

Agence France-Press.

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Agence France-Press.

Fresh speculation on Real coach

Madrid, March 31. — The sudden resignation of Vujadin Boskov of Yugoslavia as coach of Real Madrid has led to fresh speculation that Cesar Luis Menotti, manager of Argentina, will take over.

The specialist newspaper Don Ballester said here today that the choice of the new manager at Real — league runners up last season — would depend on the club's board of directors.

If shareholders re-elect Luis de Carlos he will send for Menotti to replace interim coach, Luis Molowny, who was hoped to replace Carlos.

A different coach would be appointed if de Carlos was not re-elected, the newspaper said. It was hoped Menotti, who was named in June, after the election, or in July, after the World Cup, the newspaper added.

Agence France-Press.

Agence France-Press.

Agence France-Press.

Agence France-Press.

Agence France-Press.

Damaged morals of Olympians

At the Royal Yachting Association's meeting at the Savoy Hotel, the council came under somewhat belated criticism for their boycott of the 1980 Olympic regatta in Tallin.

Mr Dick Law, father of two of our leading boys for medals in 1984 said that this action by the RYA has irreparably damaged the morale of the present generation of Olympians.

He further attacked the election of the fact that a coach had only just been appointed two years into the Olympic cycle and the lack of representation of competitors on RYA committees.

The majority of those who replied to these comments, both from the floor and the committee, did so somewhat sketchily. However, Robin Aisher, chairman of the committee, pointed out that the Olympic aspirants had shown any inclination to serve on committees, and that the appointment of a coach two years before the

Agence France-Press.

Agence France-Press.

Agence France-Press.

Agence France-Press.

Chinese lesson

Jakarta, March 31. — Indonesia, still smarting from their failure to win a title at last week's Asian Games, had to make a better showing in defending the Thomas Cup in London next month.

Indonesian National Sports Committee chairman, Dr Suprayono, told a sports science workshop here that Indonesian players had to learn a lesson from the Chinese, who had won the cup in 1980.

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Portsmouth and Chester make changes at the top

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A voice on the Tannoy quells booing

By Richard Sireton

Wales 20

England's opening score in this 16-group schoolboys' international in Cardiff yesterday at the national ground was a surprise. It came from a penalty kick obtained after the referee had ordered the kick to be retaken because of the crowd's booing, and booing.

The incident happened after 25 minutes when England were awarded a penalty on the 22.

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Managing Director's Secretary

required for WATES CONSTRUCTION LIMITED
The successful applicant will be working from our Head Office in Norbury, S.W.16. Excellent terms and conditions in return for above average skills plus good personality.
Write or telephone for application form to Frank Mann, Wates Construction Ltd., 1280 London Road, Norbury, S.W.16 (Tel. 01-764 5000).

SECRETARY

£5,750 p.a. + LVs
FOR WEST END ADVERTISING AGENCY

Experienced Secretary. Ideal for a busy, successful, and growing advertising agency. The successful candidate will be responsible for all correspondence, typing, and administrative duties. Salary is commensurate with experience. Please send CV to: 875 4619

SENIOR PERSONAL SECRETARY

For Partner of famous stock jobbers in the City. If you are aged 35 or over with impeccable typing and can accept responsibility please hear all details and the rewards on 875 4619. Just listen, you do not need to speak.

KINDRED SPIRIT

Out grown Secretarial work but have a sound commercial background? I need a self-starter, confident, and soundly educated person who will accept responsibility and deal with a rewarding job dealing with people. You'll have the pleasure of a saint, but of a thoroughbred and must work hard. Yes, then perhaps you would like to join the team to help others find rewarding careers too. Please ring Linda Jeffers on: 308 1631 or 603 7036 (evenings).

SECRETARY PA

required for Sales Director of London Printing firm. In addition to secretarial duties, responsibilities include aspects of sales administration, analysis and in customer liaison. Salary commensurate with experience. Please send CV to: Mr. Richard Royce, Royce Print Ltd., Royce House, Vauxhall Road, London, V1.

SECRETARY

An experienced shorthand secretary is required in the Estimating Department of our Head Office in the Victoria area. The duties are varied and demanding and in addition to normal secretarial and typing work include assisting with the collation and presentation of tenders for construction projects. The essential requirements are a good standard of shorthand and typing, and the ability to work without close supervision. Experience with a construction company, consulting engineers or surveying practice would be useful but is not essential. Please write with brief career details, marking your envelope STAFF, to: Christanti & Nielsen Ltd., 21-24 Grosvenor Place, London SW1 7JE.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Serjeant at Arms Office
requires a

PERSONAL SECRETARY

To start as soon as possible. Preferred age 30-35. Increasing and responsible post for reliable, adaptable person. Good working conditions and generous holidays. Accurate shorthand/typing essential. Salary scale (including London weighting) £5,320-£3,446 p.a. Proficiency allowances of up to £870 p.a. can be gained. Applications with curriculum vitae (including references) to: Establishment Office, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA, by first post 4 April.

CONSULTANT

TEMPORARY OR CONTRACT EMPLOYMENT
£10,000 BASIC + COMMISSION
Current experience essential. Options: Office, Sales, Training. Ring Mr. Roberts, 'ND' 01-434 2046. Metro Appointment Ltd.

Bi-Lingual PA

Chairman of interesting international company seeks experienced, fluent in Spanish, knowledge of French, excellent skills, ability to work on own initiative required. Salary not stated. CV, with A. Powell, Pan American Building, 65 King William St., E.C.4.

Recruitment Opportunities

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT AND COMPANY SECRETARY

CARDIFF c. £14,000 + car
The Western Mail and Echo Ltd., Cardiff, a subsidiary of Thomson Regional Newspapers Ltd. is a major Newspaper Publishing Co. employing over 800 staff and with a turnover in excess of £10,000,000. The Company wishes to appoint a Chief Accountant Company Secretary who will be responsible for all financial and accounting matters. Reporting to the Managing Director, he or she will control a large computerized Accounts Department and will be involved in financial planning, budgetary control and the overall supervision of the accounting function. In addition, as part of the management team there is a requirement to liaise with and assist senior line managers within the Company.
The successful candidate will be a qualified accountant, an effective manager with at least seven years experience in an industrial or commercial environment and may have some industrial relations experience.
In addition to a salary of c. £14,000 a company motor car will be made available.
Please send a full curriculum vitae to:

Managing Director
Western Mail and Echo Ltd.
Thomson House
Havelock Street
Cardiff
South Glamorgan CF1 1WR

COLLEGE SECRETARY

The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
Applications are invited for the post of Secretary who will be required to implement college policies, supervise staff and the general administration. Previous administrative experience at a senior level is essential. An accountant or chartered secretaries qualification would be an advantage.
We anticipate that the successful applicant will command a salary of not less than £14,000 per annum. There is a generous superannuation scheme and other benefits.
For further information write to the Secretary, 27 SUSSEX PLACE, REGENTS PARK, LONDON NW1 4RG to whom applications, market confidential, should be addressed.
(No special form required)

Mulberry Company

We seek 2
Manager/Manageress
and sales staff for our
London Retail Outlets
Successful applicants should have a minimum of high quality fashion accessories, be articulate and self-reliant. If you are interested in joining our dedicated team then apply in writing with C.V. stating which role you are applying for to: Ursula Hudson, Mulberry Company, 3-4 Barret Street, London W1.

Warden

The Mansfield House University Settlement is a well-established foundation which includes a famous Regis Club in East London. A man or woman of distinction and education is required to take up duties as Warden to the Settlement, which includes the promotion of the religion of Jesus Christ, and the provision of Christian, educational and other charitable services for the people of the district.
A salary of £10,000 p.a. with a flat pension will be provided. Details from the Mansfield House University Settlement, Fairbairn Hall, 20 Avenue Road, London E7 8HT.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

CONSERVATION c. £2,000
We are searching for an Assistant with secretarial skills to work with this very interesting person who produces Film on Conservation and Natural History. There will be some travel so languages useful. A knowledge of the Film Industry is desirable but not essential. What is more important is an appreciation of the subject matter involved. An enthusiastic, imaginative person who is well educated, has sound administrative experience and who is a natural communicator. You will be based in Holland Park, aged 28-4. This is a wonderful career opportunity for the right person.
Contact: HOGGETT, BOWERS SELECTION LTD. TEL. 01-734 6852.

EUROPEAN DEMOCRATIC GROUP

in the European Parliament seeks 2 Administrators for its Brussels-based Secretariat. Duties principally: provision of secretarial service to members of the Group on political affairs and external economic relations committees, i.e.:
—preparation of briefing material on matters within the competences of the committees
—assisting the members generally in committee and plenary
—liaison with other political groups, institutions and political parties.
Candidates should have at least a 2nd class University degree, professional and/or political experience in the fields covered by these committees. Good knowledge of French or other Community language is essential. Posts at A7-6 level Community salary scales.
Applications (marked 'confidential') together with detailed curriculum vitae and photograph before 23 April to:
The Secretary General
European Democratic Group,
Rue Belliard,
97-113 1040 Brussels

UCB

The University College at Buckingham BURSAR
This expanding College is creating a new senior administrative post reporting to the Principal: salary £13,250 p.a. with £1,000 bonus. The successful candidate will be responsible for the building and maintenance of the College, the development of the College's services, student accommodation and catering, office services and security.
Wide experience, particularly in building and property management, is essential. Age 40-50.
Further details and an application form from The Principal, The University College at Buckingham, MK18 1BQ, Closing date: May 7th, 1982.

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, Canberra, Australia

DIRECTOR

\$A49,100 plus allowances

The Australian Government is expected to enact legislation in 1982 to establish the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) as a statutory authority and create the position of its Director. The Centre will be responsible for identifying priority agricultural and related research needs in developing country regions, developing proposals to meet those needs and mobilising and expanding Australian and developing country capacity to implement approved programmes for research. The Centre will not engage in research activities itself. It will be charged with contracting research work to existing Australian institutions in the field of agriculture and related disciplines. The Centre will have a Policy Advisory Council representative of developed and developing country expertise and a Board of Management which will be responsible to the Minister for Foreign Affairs for the conduct of the affairs of the Centre.

The Director will, subject to the direction of the Board of Management, manage the affairs of the Centre, assisted by a secretariat of high professional quality.

Qualifications and Experience
The Director will have research experience of international standing in an appropriate field of agriculture or related disciplines. He will have superior management skills and substantial experience in policy formulation and development programme development and evaluation, and the conduct of research programmes. Sound knowledge of the Australian research system in agriculture and related disciplines and a working knowledge of agricultural research needs and systems in developing countries (including national, regional and international systems) are considered essential. Experience in the requirements and problems of conducting research programmes in developing countries would be an advantage.

Salary and Conditions
\$A49,100 plus allowances of \$A1,525 p.a. for expenses of office. Conditions of service include four weeks annual leave plus leave loading and membership of a superannuation fund. Removal and relocation expenses may be borne by the Centre. The successful applicant will be appointed for up to seven years. Persons seeking further information are invited to contact Dr Gabrielle Persley in Canberra (062) 47 6644.
Applications with curriculum vitae and names and addresses of two referees should be forwarded to the Chairman, Interim Board of Management, ACIAR, PO Box 887, Canberra City, A.C.T. Australia 2601, no later than 23 April, 1982.

AUSTRALIA

BUSINESS LIBRARIAN/EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

LONDON W1
The Technical Department of a leading firm of Chartered Accountants (33 Partners) requires a business librarian/editorial assistant.
Dealing with clients and staff queries and providing information is central to the job. The writing of a monthly newsletter, including both technical and general matters, based on abstracts and reviews of newspapers, journals and books is also an important task. In addition the librarian will assist the members of the Technical Department in the preparation of books, technical papers and articles for clients, staff and outside publications. All these require somebody who knows about or is interested in accountancy and business matters.
The librarian will also deal with the purchase and classification of books, magazines and articles. He or she will have to type the monthly newsletter, own correspondence and library index cards. Candidates should have library experience in a business or accountancy environment. Salary will be dependent upon experience.
Please write, giving details of your academic background and experience to date, to Miss Sue Henry, Personnel Officer, Stoy Hayward & Company, 54 Baker Street, London W1M 1DJ.



Stoy Hayward & Co
Chartered Accountants

Company Secretary

£20,000+

The Greater London Enterprise Board, which is funded by the GLC, represents a vital new initiative in the strategic industrial needs of Greater London. In fulfilling its functions as an Industrial Development Agency, GLEB will generate the impetus for physical and economic regeneration through a wide-ranging programme of investment.
The key appointment of Company Secretary is one of considerable influence and importance. In addition to acting as Secretary to the Board, the successful applicant will have specific responsibilities in three major areas: as the Company's Principal Legal Officer
with regard to the acquisition, management and letting of property, and financing of the Board's enterprises; as Chief Administrator; and as Controller of the Personnel function.
The ability to operate within a complex legal and administrative framework, under close public scrutiny, is therefore a prerequisite.
Candidates should be able to demonstrate a successful track record at senior level, possess ACIS and preferably hold a legal qualification.
Letters of application, together with curriculum vitae, should be sent in confidence to Gareth Hadley, Room 334a, The County Hall, London, SE1 7PB.

Legal Appointments cost only £3.25 per line or £20 pscc

Simply complete the coupon below with details of your vacancy, together with your name and address and telephone number, and we will telephone you with a quotation before we insert your advertisement.

Advertisement

Name Address

Telephone

Post this coupon to The Times, Classified Advertising Dept., 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ.

Or telephone 01-278 9161 (Recruitment only).

Classif
Adverti
01-837

Recruitment Opportunities

Housekeeper

The Churchill Clinic is a privately owned acute hospital which opened in May, 1981. There are 40 full-time posts and a full range of clinical facilities. Our objectives are to provide excellent standards of patient care together with first-class facilities for the community.

We require an experienced manager to run our housekeeping services. The ideal candidate will be between 35 and 45 years of age, have practical experience of domestic management in hospital or hotel, and have formal qualifications in appropriate subjects. He/she will be offered an attractive salary and will enjoy excellent working conditions.

The Clinic is built on a site of 100 acres and is well served by bus and underground services. Housing accommodation can be provided.

The job is full-time and includes overtime. Salary is £12,000 per annum. Should you wish to discuss the position further, please contact Mr. J. P. Robinson, who can be contacted on 01-233 2001.

Churchill Clinic

DESIGN COMPANY SWI
ACCOUNT HANDLER EXCELLENT

An expanding Design Company based in S.W.1 is seeking an additional account handler. The ideal candidate will be a woman, aged 25-35, with a degree in Business, a professional and intelligent attitude and preferably with some previous experience in account handling. The position involves a high level of responsibility and will be a full-time role. The two main functions will be to plan new clients and service existing accounts. Excellent remuneration and a highly attractive fringe benefits package will be offered. For further details contact Vivien Emerson-Rice, 01-233 2001.

EMERSON RECRUITMENT ASSOCIATES

HEAD OF PRODUCTION
NORTH PAKISTAN

Senior Management position with a progressive advertising company. Candidates should be highly motivated, experienced in the production of television commercials and have a minimum of 10 years' experience. Salary commensurate with experience and responsibilities. Interviews in London.

American Roulette
Black Jack

Dealers with 3 yrs. experience in Black Jack and Roulette. Must be able to work in a Las Vegas style environment. Excellent accommodation and benefits. Apply in person, Thursday, 1.4.82, at The Embassy Hotel, 100, Strand, London, W.C.2. Tel: 01-233 7755.

WEST END
FINE ART DEALERS

We need an energetic and competent person to fill an interesting and challenging position as an art assistant. Must be able to type and work accurately in a busy environment. Salary negotiable. C.V. to: Stephen Saunders, Wellington Galleries, 1, Great St. W.1 (no phone calls please).

CVs & SPECULATIVE LETTERS
FIRST IMPRESSIONS COUNT

The presentation and content of your CV reflects your personality. We are specialists with sensitive, professional and creative services. Tel: 01-233 7755. 100, Strand, London, W.C.2.

SECRETARY
TO ALBANY

The Trustees of Albany invite applications for the appointment of Secretary to Albany, vacant in June 1982. The successful candidate, who should be between 40 and 54, would be appointed Assistant Secretary on 1st November 1982.

The appointment concerns the running of a small London Estate. Chambers are provided. Free General and Water Rates, telephone, cleaning etc. Salary £2,500. Apply with cv and 2 referees: The Secretary, Albany, Piccadilly, London, W1V 9BR.

RECRUITMENT
CONSULTANT

An experienced Recruitment Consultant sought to handle Financial appointments in non-established offices. Good basic plus profit share.

Contact: L. F. LOCK, MD, MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL, 100, Strand, London, W.C.2. Tel: 01-233 7755.

KITCHEN SHOWROOM

Salary £12,000 + car. 01-233 7755.

TRAINEE EXPEDITION LEADERS

Required for Asia and Africa. Must be 25 years old and have 2 years' experience. Tel: 01-233 7755.

ART GALLERY, W1

Person with sales experience, must have knowledge of art required to manage gallery. Tel: 01-233 7755.

Classified
Advertising

01-837 3311

HORIZONS
The Times guide to careers training
More demand for special skills

Careers in advertising, writes Philip Schofield, are exciting and rewarding but the risks and stress are high.

If you find an ad unacceptable, don't turn the page: turn to us.

This slogan forms part of a promotion campaign run by the Advertising Standards Authority. Agency: Davidson Pearce.

classes or correspondence courses, for the diploma in advertising of the Communication Advertising and Marketing Education Foundation (DipCAM) are encouraged.

The risk of redundancy is high. During each recession many leave the industry altogether. New recruitment booms with economic recovery. The loss of a large client frequently results in redundancies.

Back-seat benefits

"Inefficient, wasteful and unjust," Michel Syrett examines the Chancellor's attempts at reform.

From April 6, 1983, any employee using a company petrol allowance for private motoring will be liable to pay tax on it, regardless of the method by which it is provided. The scale charge will not apply if an employee pays for all his own private petrol, and where he uses his company car for more than 18,000 miles a year and qualifies for a one-half reduction in the scale charge he pays on the car, he will qualify for a one-half reduction in the fuel scale charge.

This measure, postponed from last year and announced by the Chancellor last Friday, represents the latest move by the Government in a long and uphill struggle to iron out inconsistencies in the levels of tax relief available on fringe benefits and perquisites in this country.

It is easy to see why the Government is concerned. Britain is unique in the prevalence of the fringe benefits that employers offer their staff. The salary research unit of Inbucan Management Consultants estimated last year that more than 70 per cent of cars driven in Britain are bought by businesses (compared with 55 per cent in 1973 and only 22 per cent in 1960), and Simon & Co., a leading firm of stockbrokers, estimate that more than half of British company cars are used as benefits rather than "tools of the trade".

Inbucan also claims that more than 60 per cent of British executives receive medical insurance (compared with 37 per cent in 1977) and that nearly 75 per cent enjoy a subsidised lunch.

The popularity of perks is a legacy of the high levels of taxation and long periods of wage restraint which were introduced during the 1960s and 1970s. Employers find it a cost-effective way of rewarding managerial effort, attracting new blood, and deterring high levels of staff turnover, whilst they use the

although staff often follow the client to the new agency.

Those who best survive and progress are those who develop strong personal and professional relationships with their clients, so creating mutual dependency; who keep in touch with the job grapevine of this highly mobile industry; who become acknowledged experts on a major client organization, a particular product market or industry; or a specialist advertising activity; who are good at winning new business; and who are good financial managers.

Its intellectual challenge, volatility, high remuneration and potential for rapid progress make a career in advertising interesting, exciting and highly rewarding. However the stress is also high.

Information on the DipCAM may be obtained from CAM Foundation, Abford House, 15 Wilton Road, London SW1 (01-828 7506).

generous tax relief available on fringe benefits to reduce their taxable profits.

To employees, particularly in the higher income bracket, wide-ranging fringe benefits can considerably augment their real income. A basic salary of £18,000 could be worth as much as £24,000 if the employee concerned also benefits from a company share plan, a pension scheme, a company car, telephone rental, BUPA insurance and subsidised meals.

Tax relief on perks consequently represents a permanent drain on the Government's resources, a fact reflected in a recent Inland Revenue report which showed that taxation on the value of company cars would have added an estimated £330m to the Treasury in 1980. In addition, both the Prime Minister and the Chancellor have made it plain that they regard fringe benefits as an indiscriminate and inefficient way of providing incentive in industry. As Sir Geoffrey Howe explained in a speech four months after he was appointed as Chancellor: "Perks are an inefficient and often wasteful way of rewarding effort — and unjust. Some perks are taxed in full. Others pay no tax at all on identical benefits. The whole system is almost always designed to set people enviously against each other, and so bring our system into contempt."

But with high taxation and low salary settlements still a factor in industry, and with fringe benefits still firmly embedded in the compensation mechanism at all levels of income, employers and employees have proved very resistant to any major reform of the perks system. In particular, a reduction in the level of relief on company cars would cause widespread concern in an ailing car industry.

With no immediate prospect of being able to substantially reduce taxation, and with an election slowly looming on the horizon, it seems unlikely that the Government will impose any wholesale change in the perks system, however much it would like to do so.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

City Business History

A full-time post to assist with the preparation of Volume II of a major business history. Remuneration at appropriate SRC rates. Located in the City of London. Starting time: August-September 1982. Successful candidate will have a sound first degree in economic history, modern history, or some related discipline. Further research experience in these, or similar fields, is also essential. The post would suit a graduate student in the final stages of completing a PhD dissertation; and a candidate in this, or similar, situation would be preferred.

Applications, including a full curriculum vitae and two academic references, should be sent to:

Clive Trebilcock, Pembroke College, Cambridge.

Pembroke College has no direct involvement in this project.

PARIS IN SPRING
FRENCH LANGUAGE
COURSES

Assist D and A-level GCE. Optional. Business French. Examinations, accommodation. Free prospectus from The French Master Institute, 11, Charles Street, London, W.1.

TELEPHONE 01-493 5434

ON PARIS: 01-501 2210

RECRUITMENT
OPPORTUNITIES
COSTS ONLY

£3.25 per line £20 pssc

Simply complete the coupon below together with your name and address and telephone number, and we will telephone you with a quotation before we insert your advertisement.

Advertisement:

Name Address

Telephone

Post this coupon to The Times, Classified Advertising, Dept., 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ, or phone 01-278 9162 (recruitment only).

UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE AND SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL
SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS DEPARTMENTAppointment of Head
of Research Section

Applications are invited from graduates, preferably with degree level qualifications in educational research and measurement and with previous experience in research in the context of GCE examinations for the above post which is to be filled with effect from 1 September 1982. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the Research Section (7+ staff), the initiation, supervision and carrying out of research investigations and preparation of reports, mainly in the field of GCE examinations and the new 16+ examination system, and preparing and presenting papers at meetings inside and outside the School Examinations Department. Appointment will be within Grade III of the National Structure for University Administrative Staff; salary on appointment will be at a point on the scale £12,305 to £15,410 per annum plus £1,035 London Allowance. Six weeks holiday plus public holidays and privilege days; membership of the Universities Superannuation Scheme.

Further particulars, together with information concerning applications, may be obtained from the Assistant Personnel Officer (SED), 86-72 Gower Street, London WC1E 6EE. Telephone 01-636 8000 ext. 80. Closing date: 28 April 1982.

University of London:
The London School of
Economics

SERC Studentships in the Sciences and Engineering Research Council has accepted the course: "M.Sc. Soc. Sci. Econ. & Eng. Res. Council" at the London School of Economics. The course is designed to provide a foundation for research in the social sciences and engineering. It is a two-year programme. The first year is spent in the School of Economics and the second year in the School of Engineering. The course is open to graduates with a first degree in a relevant subject. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, The London School of Economics, 90, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT. Tel: 01-636 8000.

VEPIC MATHEMATICS

At two levels: VEPIC 1 and VEPIC 2. VEPIC 1 is for students with a first degree in a relevant subject. VEPIC 2 is for students with a first degree in a relevant subject and a postgraduate qualification. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, The London School of Economics, 90, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT. Tel: 01-636 8000.

TELEPHONE 01-493 5434

ON PARIS: 01-501 2210

St. Hugh's College, Oxford

TEMPORARY
LECTURESHIP IN LAW

The College proposes to appoint a temporary lecturer in law to the School of Law, St. Hugh's College, Oxford, for the period 1st October 1982 to 30th September 1983. The successful candidate will be responsible for the teaching of law to students of the School of Law. The post is a full-time position. The salary will be £12,305 to £15,410 per annum plus £1,035 London Allowance. Six weeks holiday plus public holidays and privilege days; membership of the Universities Superannuation Scheme.

Further particulars, together with information concerning applications, may be obtained from the Assistant Personnel Officer (SED), 86-72 Gower Street, London WC1E 6EE. Telephone 01-636 8000 ext. 80. Closing date: 28 April 1982.

St. James's School of Theology, London

TELEPHONE 01-493 5434

ON PARIS: 01-501 2210

St. James's School of Theology, London

TELEPHONE 01-493 5434

ON PARIS: 01-501 2210

Educational, Careers and
RetrainingUniversity
College of
Swansea

NERC Research
Studentships

Applications are invited for studentships in the NERC Research Programme. The programme is designed to provide a foundation for research in the natural sciences and engineering. It is a two-year programme. The first year is spent in the School of Natural Sciences and the second year in the School of Engineering. The course is open to graduates with a first degree in a relevant subject. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, The University of Swansea, Singleton Park, Swansea SA2 8PP. Tel: 01-233 7755.

AUSTRALIA

Applications are invited for the

University of Melbourne
CHAIR OF ANATOMY

Applications are invited for the

University of Western Australia, Perth

POSTDOCTORAL
FELLOW IN
ECONOMIC
GEOLOGY/ORE
GENESIS

Applications are invited for

Faculty of Military Studies

PROFESSOR OF
CIVIL ENGINEERING

The University has a Faculty

of Military Studies at the

University of New South Wales, Sydney

Applications are invited for

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Radio 4		Radio 1	
6.00 News Briefing.	8.20 Concert: Part 2: Ives, Ger. shown.	5.50 As Radio 2: 7.00 Mike Reid, 9.00 Simon Bates, 11.30 Dave Lee Travis including 12.30 pop / Newsbeat, 2.00pm Paul Burnett, 3.30 i: live Wright, 5.00 Peter Powell including up 5.50 Newsbeat 8.55 Top 40 Album C, 7.20 The Record Reporters: Tony Vincent, 9.0 Dave Jensen, 10.00 / John Peel: VHF Radio 1 and 2 & 5 With Radio 2: 10.00 pm With-Radio: 1 12.00-5.5 With Radio 2	5.00 World Service can be received in Western Europe on 1 medium wave (643 kHz) at the following times (GMT): 6.00 Newsbeat, 8.30 Mike Reid, 9.00 Simon Bates, 11.30 Dave Lee Travis, 12.30 Top 40 Album C, 1.00 Newsbeat, 2.00pm Paul Burnett, 3.30 i: live Wright, 5.00 Peter Powell including up 5.50 Newsbeat 8.55 Top 40 Album C, 7.20 The Record Reporters: Tony Vincent, 9.0 Dave Jensen, 10.00 / John Peel: VHF Radio 1 and 2 & 5 With Radio 2: 10.00 pm With-Radio: 1 12.00-5.5 With Radio 2
6.00 News Briefing.	9.10 The Book of the Arts. Michael Raper on George Pujman a 19th-century book called 'The River Aze in the West Country. Kaleidoscope.	5.50 News.	5.50 News.
6.10 Farming Today.	9.30 The World Tonight: Suffern.	5.50 Mainly for Pressure.	5.50 Mainly for Pressure.
6.20 Today.	10.00 A Book at Bedtime: 'Gorky Park' by Martin Cruz Smith (14).	6.00 Grieg and Dvorak. Violin and Piano recital.	6.00 Grieg and Dvorak. Violin and Piano recital.
6.30 Yesterday in Parliament.	11.15 The Financial World Tonight.	7.05 Terror by Gun Cass. Different aspects of 'terrorism' - the child's fear of the dark to the suffering inflicted by modern-day terrorism.	7.05 Terror by Gun Cass. Different aspects of 'terrorism' - the child's fear of the dark to the suffering inflicted by modern-day terrorism.
9.00 News.	11.30 Today in Parliament.	9.30 Telemant. Concert.	9.30 Telemant. Concert.
9.05 A Good Night Out. Laura Taylor tries his hand in the casino.	12.00 News: Weather Report Forecast.	9.30 Between Two Shores. Short story by Bernard Malamud.	9.30 Between Two Shores. Short story by Bernard Malamud.
10.00 News.	12.15 Shipping Forecast: Inshore Waves Forecast.	10.00 Music in Our Time. George Newson, Piers Hollowell, Philip Hammond.	10.00 Music in Our Time. George Newson, Piers Hollowell, Philip Hammond.
10.02 Town Hall Rows OK? Nigel Raper continues his investigation of how local government works.	12.15 Shipping Forecast: Inshore Waves Forecast.	11.05 News.	11.05 News.
10.30 Daily Service.	ENGLISH: VHF with 11 above except as follows: 6.25-6.30 as Weather; Travel, 10.30-10.45 as Listen With Mother.	11.05 A Polish Romantic. Maria Agosta.	11.05 A Polish Romantic. Maria Agosta.
10.45 A Missing Masterpiece? Michael Raper on a film by Sergi Daniloff.	1.55-2.00pm Programme Progression.	11.05 New York: piano music on VHF only.	11.05 New York: piano music on VHF only.
11.00 News: Travel.	News, 5.50-5.55 pm (continued).		
11.05 File On 4. Major issues and events at home and abroad.			
11.50 Enquire Within. Listeners' questions.			

1.40 The Archers.	12.20 a.m. The Hindu Temple.	World News, 11.55 p.m. Radio 7.
2.00 News.	12.40-1.00 Investigating the Law.	11.55 A Pattern of Life, 11.30 Assignment.
2.02 Woman's Hour.	6.55 Weather.	12.00 Radio News, 12.15 pm Top Twenty, 12.45 Sports Roundup, 1.00 World News, 1.05 Four Hours News.
3.02 Afternoon Theatre, "The Other	7.00 News.	1.30 N. Mark Week, 1.45 The
	7.55 Morning Concert, Leclair.	

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<p>152kHz/261M, VHF 97 3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194M, VHF 95 8MHz: BBC Radio London MF 1548kHz/206M and VHF 94.4 MHz: World Service MF 648kHz/463M.</p>		
REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS		
<p>BBC 1</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 2</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 3</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 4</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 5</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 6</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 7</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 8</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 9</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 10</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 11</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 12</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 13</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 14</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 15</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 16</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 17</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 18</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 19</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 20</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 21</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 22</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		
<p>BBC 23</p> <p>10.10pm-11.00pm: <i>News</i></p>		

News and Weather, ENGLAND
0.00pm-6.00pm Regional News
6.00pm-6.30pm Newsnight, 12.00 Close.

TYNE TEES

As Thames except: Starts 9.20 am
 9.20am Wood Words, 9.25-9.30 News, 9.50
 am The Day After, 10.15 Carlton, 10.25
 am John L. Love Match (Arthur Aspinall)
 10.30am Arthur in trouble at a football match
 10.40-12.00 Sally and Jake, 1.20 pm
 1.30pm News, Lookaround, 4.30 Flycatcher
 4.40, 4.50-4.55 Voyage to the bottom
 of the Sea, 6.00 News, 6.02
 pm News, 6.05pm, 6.25 Northern Live, 7.00-
 7.30pm Emmerdale Farm, 10.30 News
 10.35 Come to, 11.00
 pm News, 11.05pm, 12.00 Job Slot Extra.
 12.05 pm Live is Six to Four Against,
 12.20 Closedowns.

GRAMPAN

As Thames except: Starts 9.25 am
 9.25pm Final Thing, 9.50 Near a
 10.00pm News, 10.05pm, 10.15pm

SCOTTISH

As Thames except: 9.50 pm Film:
 Earth versus the Flying Saucers (Hugh
 Marston), 11.05-12.00 Challenge,
 1.20 pm 1.30 News, 4.20
 pm News, 4.25-4.30 News, 4.30
 Takes, 5.20-5.45 Crocodiles, 6.00
 Scotland Today, 6.00 Sydeline, 6.30
 Now You See It, 7.00-7.30pm Emmerdale
 Farm, 10.30 Preview: Ugly Styline,
 11.00 Show Jumping, 12.00 Seacht
 Laifreann, 12.15 am Late Call, 12.20
 Closedown.

GRANADA

As Thames except: 9.50 am Stinger,
 10.10 Alphabet, 10.15pm Billy's Bird,
 10.20-10.30 Sesame Street, 1.20 pm
 Granada Reports, 1.25 Exchange
 1.30pm, 1.35pm, 1.40pm, 1.45pm

ANGLIA

As Thames except: 9.50 Sesame
 Street, 10.40 James Brown, 11.50
 Wattoo, Wattoo, 1.20 pm-1.30 News,
 1.30-1.45 Not for Kids, 1.50-2.00
 5.15 Palmerston, 8.00 About Anglia,
 8.30 News, 8.35 Crocodores, 7.00-
 7.30 Screen, 10.00 Basketball, 11.00
 Show Jumping, 12.00 Late, 12.30 am
 Living World.

TVS

As Thames except: 9.50 am Survival,
 11.50 Story Hour, 11.10-12.00
 Turzani, 1.20 pm News, 1.25-1.45 Not
 For Women Only, 3.45-4.15 Square
 One, 5.15 Radio, 5.35-5.45 Coast to
 Coast, 6.35 Crocodores, 7.00-7.30
 News, 7.35-8.00 News, 8.00-8.30
 Emmerdale Farm, 10.30 Enterprise,
 11.00 Show Jumping, 12.00 Company,

ULSTER

As Thames except: 12.00-12.10 pm
 Wolfies, 1.20-1.30 Luncheonette, 4.40
 New Fred & Barney Show, 4.45
 School Cart Animal, 5.00-5.15, 5.30-
 5.45 Good Evening Ulster, 6.00 Good
 Evening Ulster, 6.25 Police Star, 6.35
 6.40-6.50 News, 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale
 Farm, 10.30 13 care, 11.00
 Showjumping, 12.00 News,
 Close-down.

TSW

As Thames except: Starts 9.50am
 Sesame Str at 10.50 Alphabet, 11.15
 Rocket Robi at 11.20, 11.35-12.00 Paint
 Land by Nancy, 1.20-1.35pm News,
 1.515 Gue In Hand, 2.00-2.45
 Crocodores, 4.00 Daily South West,
 6.30 Tele V news, 6.40 On the Water,
 7.00-7.30 News, 7.35-8.00 News, 10.30
 Politics Show th Wed, 11.05
 Showjump at 12.00am Postscript,

Queen's Bench Division

Landlords liable for not foreseeing burglary

Lloyds form

[illegible][illegible]

Fresh trial ordered as result of judge's private conversation

[illegible]

On April 19/81, the court was told that a Kuwaiti judge, like other, faced with a question of construction on which domestic authority was lacking, would seek assistance from any jurisdiction in which there was judicial authority, and there was no reason why Kuwaiti courts could encounter difficulty in applying the policy its correct commercial interpretation.

Accordingly, the proper law was Kuwaiti and the court had no jurisdiction to order bail on the defendants in wait.

Solicitors: Constant & Constant; Ince & Co.

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Mr Stephen Dodds for the mother, Mr Charles Bloom for the father.

Head v Head
Justice had no power to commit a person to custody for two consecutive periods of six weeks for two breaches of the order made under section 16 of the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates Courts Act 1978.

A commitment to custody must take effect on the day of the order: Divisional Court of the Family Division (Mr Justice Reeve and Mr Justice Sheldon) held on March 12.

The court said that in commitment proceedings a full note of evidence should be made.

Justice May agreed.

Solicitors: F. & B. Haworth & Nuttall, Accrington; Simpson & Asbworth, Accrington.

Consecutive sentences wrong

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